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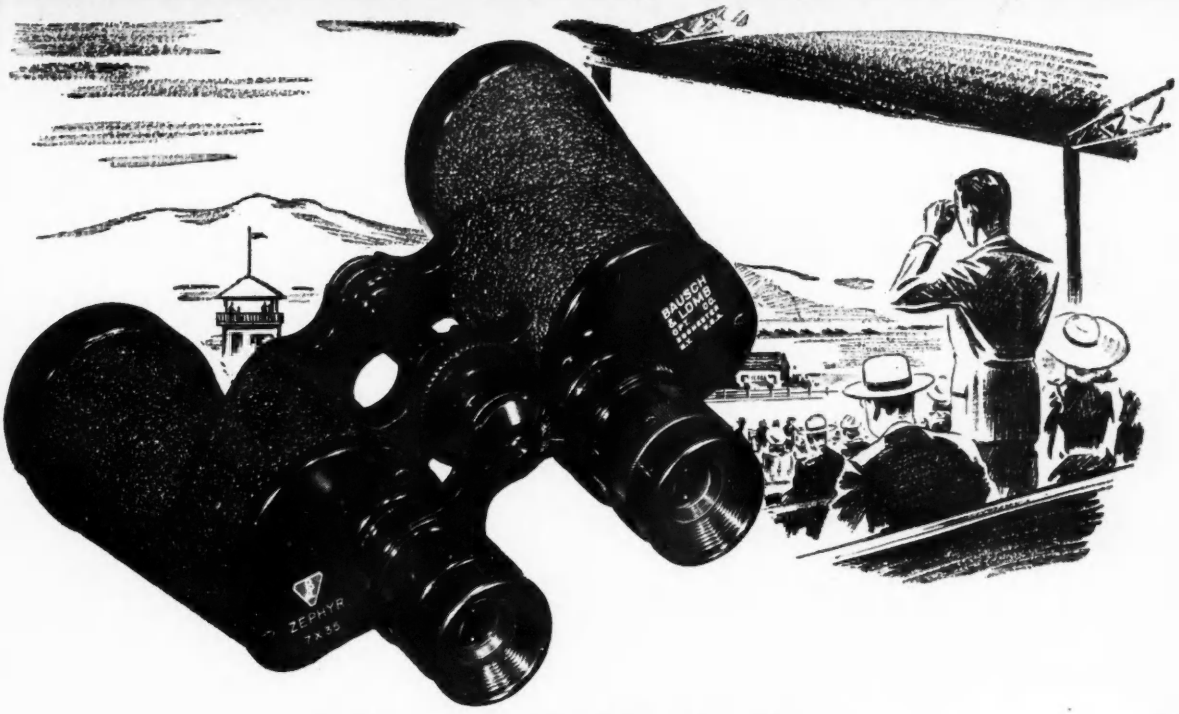

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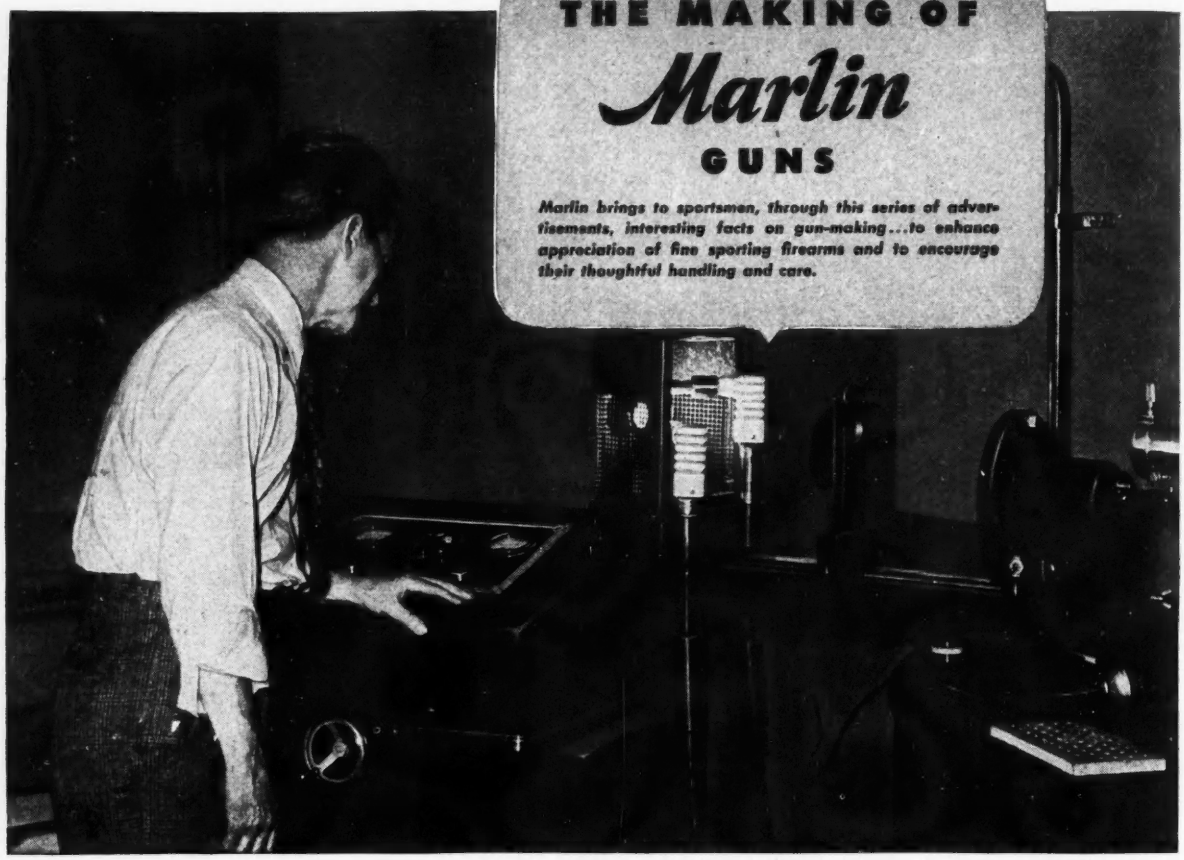
Marlin brings to sportsmen, through this series of advertisements, interesting facts on gun-making...to enhance appreciation of fine sporting firearms and to encourage their thoughtful handling and care.



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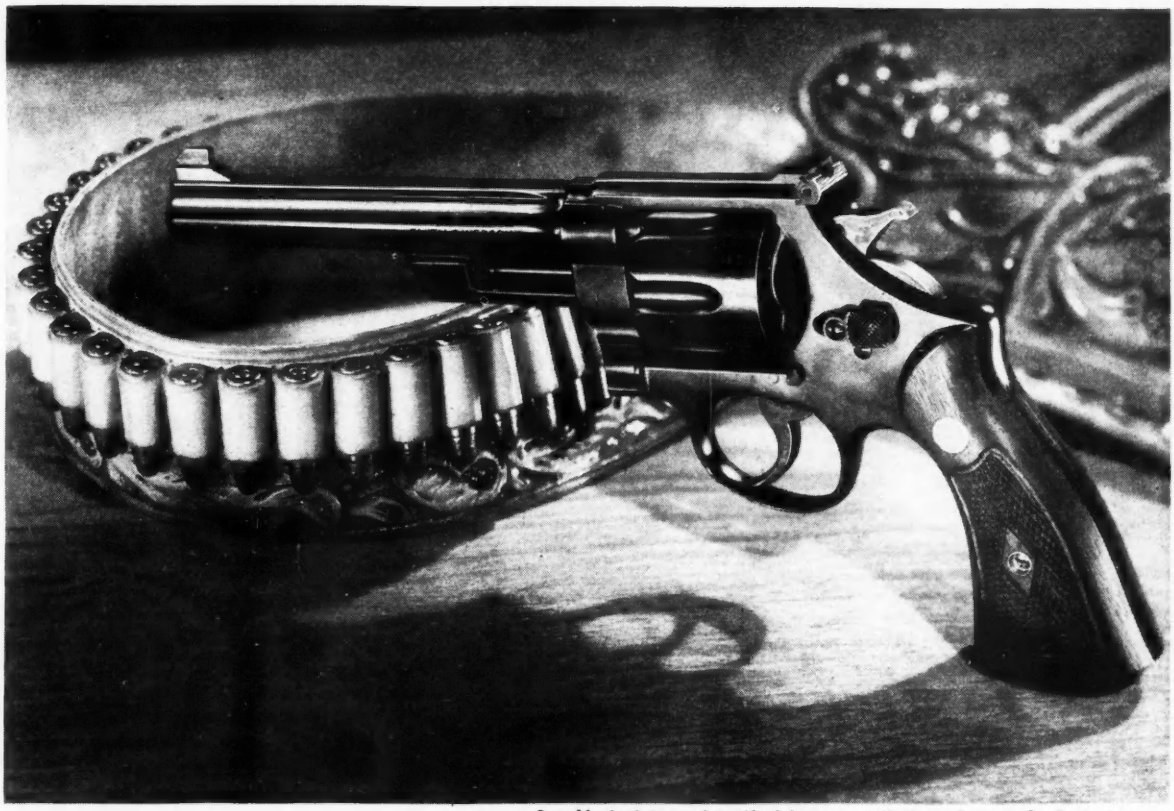

Carved leather holster and cartridge belt courtesy of The George Lawrence Co., Portland, Oregon

FOR THE MAN WHO LIKES A LOT OF GUN

The Smith & Wesson 38/44 Outdoorsman

Here is the choice of thousands of shooters who can handle a really heavy revolver. Built on the 44 caliber frame, the Outdoorsman is truly a lot of gun — 43¾ ounces of precision workmanship and power.

If you want the solid "feel" and superb balance of such a weapon, the Outdoorsman offers accuracy, easy handling and sweet shooting — an ideal companion on the range or in the woods.

The postwar Outdoorsman is now equipped with the famous Smith & Wesson micrometer click sight and a full-length ribbed barrel. With it you can use the entire line of 38 Special cartridges from the target-shooters' favorite — the mid-range wadcutter — right up to the ultra-powerful 38 Special High-Speeds with velocities as high as 1300 feet per second.

The Smith & Wesson Outdoorsman is slated for early production. If you'd like to own one of these great guns soon, ask your dealer to put your name on his waiting list today.

Smith & Wesson *The Thoroughbred of the Handgun World*

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Savage Model 99—Hi-Power Lever Action Repeating Rifle—World famous favorite of big game hunters. Calibers include: Savage .300 and Savage .250-3000.

Most of your big game hunting is probably for deer, so you may never come face to face with the *smashing power* and ability to "take it"—and "give it"—that's packed into the huge frame of a mighty bull moose . . . But, when and if you do, and your rifle is a Savage Model 99, "300", you'll *know* you'll stop him and stop him cold.

The sleekly streamlined, fast handling Savage "300" delivers more than a ton of *smashing, shocking, stopping* "wallop" at 100 yards. It has the *reserve* power and world famous accuracy you need for clean, sure kills on *all kinds* of American big game.

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The
AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

Official Journal of the National Rifle Association of America

VOLUME 94 NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER 1946

From the Editor:

Though the national labor situation seems to have eased as far as harried magazine publishers are concerned, local strikes continue to make life uncertain in RIFLEMAN editorial offices. This time it's a threatened walkout of typographers and composing-room men . . . As this issue is handed to the printers, we're reasonably sure of getting it out, *sometime* . . . on time is another proposition. Local typographers have already decided to work no more overtime . . . which cuts man-hours down at least a third. With crowded printing plants, that means half again as long to produce an issue . . . almost a certainty that this issue of the RIFLEMAN will be days late . . . Once again, all we can say is sorry, there's nothing we can do but tear our hair and hope.

Meantime, the typographers have served notice of intention to strike, late in September . . . just as our October issue goes on the presses. What will happen then is anybody's guess, unless a last-minute settlement clears the air . . . rumor indicates possibility of as long as 30 days of composing-room shutdown . . . and that might as well be the whole plant. All we can promise is that there'll be no missing issues . . . subscribers will get their twelve copies of the RIFLEMAN for 1946, if, as and when we can get them off the presses.

We'd like to mention advertising, too . . . This month marks one more record, in a year of constant growth and record-setting . . . 48 full pages of ads . . . favorite reading matter of so many RIFLEMAN readers. We'd planned to add another sixteen pages, to bring magazine size up to 96 pages . . . and so keep pace with this increased advertising by giving members an equivalent addition in reading matter. For the first time in many months, our paper contractor was able to say, go ahead . . . enough available for the extra sixteen, plus an increase of 15,000 circulation . . . for an all-time high of 170,000 . . . when our printer sorrowfully told us he couldn't make it. No overtime . . . not enough man-hours. So . . . we've compromised by adding eight pages this issue, to offset that extra eight of ads. At least there's no loss . . . those eight pages let us give readers the same amount of editorial copy as before, plus a record crop of advertising. And the promise of extra paper gives us hope that we can add more pages on a permanent basis before long . . . in line with that policy we're working for . . . a bigger, better RIFLEMAN, with constantly increasing coverage of the things shooters want to know about.

And incidentally, even if none of these dire prophecies come true, the October RIFLEMAN is going to be two or three days late . . . deliberately . . . so we can get those final Camp Perry stories and scores into print.

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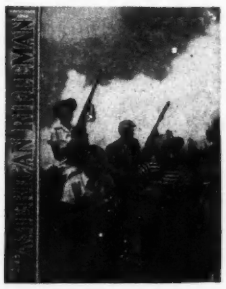


COVER

Four kids, afield with their rifles . . . That shooting coat in the back row indicates a youngster trained on the target ranges before being allowed to hunt "on his own," and those open bolts and muzzles safely pointed, show that someone has instilled into this foursome those all-important rules of safety with firearms. The Kodachrome was taken by Marine pistol shooter Phil Roettinger on the Leatherneck base at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, 1600 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, WASHINGTON 6, D. C. DOMESTIC RATES (NORTH, SOUTH, AND CENTRAL AMERICA) $3.00 A YEAR; $5.00 FOR TWO YEARS, ELSEWHERE, $3.60 A YEAR; $6.50 FOR TWO YEARS. ENTERED AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER, APRIL 1, 1908, AT THE POST OFFICE AT WASHINGTON, D. C., UNDER ACT OF MARCH 3, 1879. COPYRIGHT, 1946, NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS, GIVE BOTH NEW AND OLD ADDRESS AS THE LATTER APPEARS ON ADDRESS LABEL.

Is There a "Russian Problem"?

IT IS high time that Americans come to a realization of the fundamental fact that the "Russian problem" is in reality the "Communist problem." There is no government of the Russians by the Russians for the Russians. There is a government of the Russians by the Communists for international communism. The Russian people are mute—muted by the murdering, exiling methods of their Communist minority who are very vocal. One hundred sixty million good-natured, friendly people are ruled by four to six million savagely fanatical idealists and opportunists who make a mockery of the "democracy" they so loudly proclaim.

There is no Russian international policy. There is a Communist International policy.

There is no policy of protecting Russian territory. There is a policy of extending throughout the world the territory controlled by Communists.

But we accomplish nothing if we merely recognize these facts and bemoan or curse them according to our nature. We must recognize *and act upon* another set of facts. Communism is an abstract ideology. Fascism and Nazism are abstract ideologies. The American ideal of government by and for free men is an abstract ideology. These things cannot be destroyed by destroying the men who preach them nor by destroying the cities in which they preach. The men who thought they were planting the cross on which Christ would die planted instead the seed from which sprang the very life of the Christian religion.

The solution to the "Russian problem" does not lie in the atomic bomb nor in a "Western bloc" to seal Russia off from the rest of the world. The solution lies in convincing the people of the world, including the Russian majority who are not members of the Communist Party, that the American plan produces more food, more clothing, more housing, more comforts and more individual liberty than can be produced by the Communist plan.

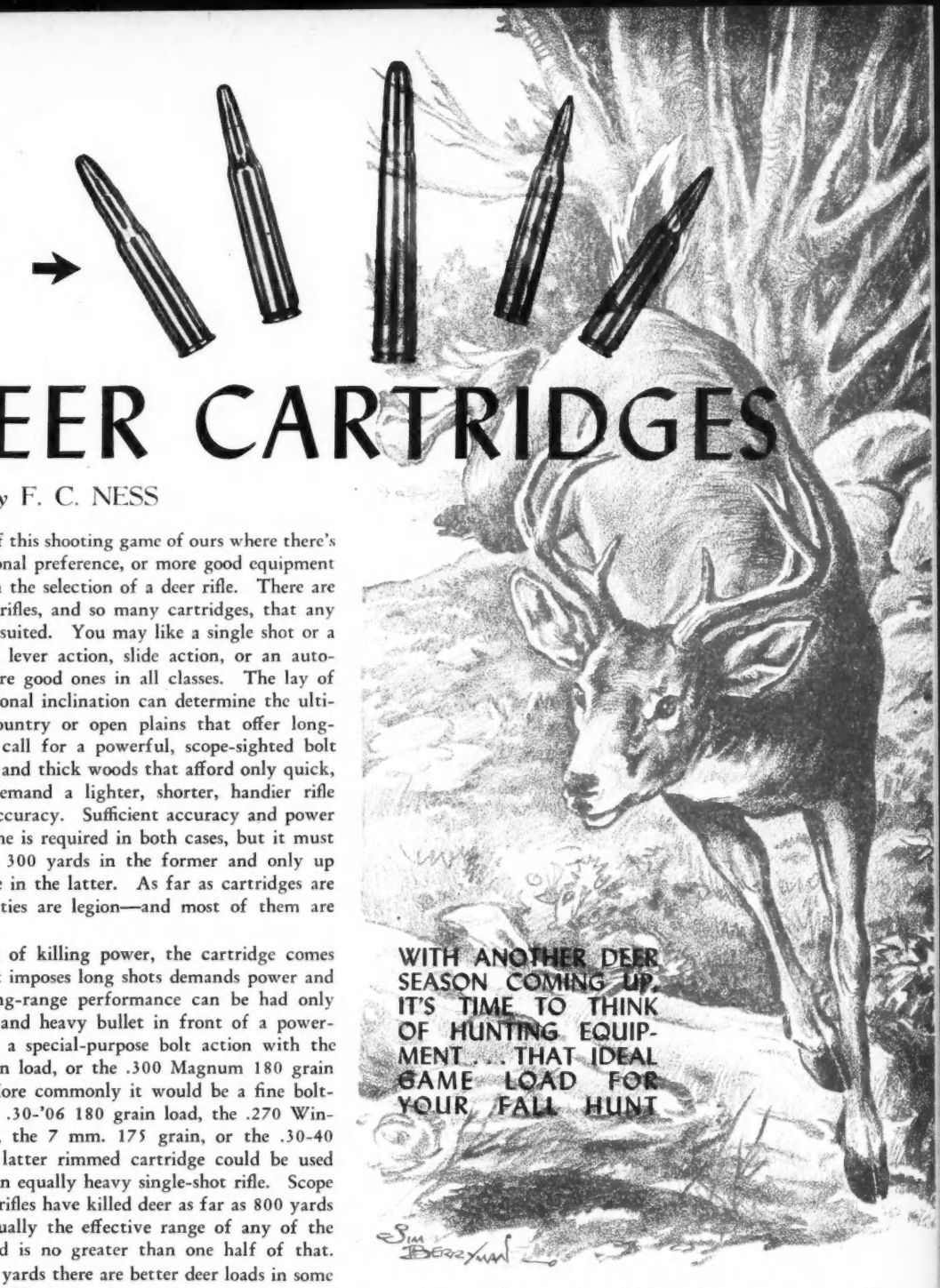
In America it is smart to cry aloud about the inefficiency of our government; the terribly undernourished condition of our automobile-driving citizens; the brutal fashion in which our home-owning, highly paid factory hands are downtrodden by "Capital"; the high-handed manner in which "Labor" seeks to "seize" the property and profits of our unbelievably wealthy corporations. Depending on where we happen to sit in the American family council we feed such pap to our children. We shout it for all the world—including the Russian people—to hear. Most of it is bunk and we know it. Most of it is mouthed in the hope of gaining some momentary political advantage for our particular group. But our growing children do not realize this. The Russian people and the peoples whom the Communist Party is trying to influence do not realize that we are just "sounding off" in time honored Anglo-Saxon style.

Under the Communist ideology the "Labor Union" suffers the same fate as the "Capitalist Trust." The working man is broken on the same wheel as the banker. Moscow itself admits more mismanagement, treason, corruption and graft during the last war and in the current reconversion period than America has ever known. Communism has not raised all Russians to a common standard of comfort and security; it has reduced all Russians to a common standard of discomfort and insecurity.

The danger to America is not in the Kremlin; it is here in the hearts of Americans.

The elimination of the danger to American institutions is not to be accomplished by fulmination or by legislation. It must be accomplished by education.

If you are concerned about "Russia," stop damning America! Begin talking about what a job we have done. Tell your children what the American ideal has done to prepare a place for them to live in the greatest of the world's nations. Tell them that any American can still reasonably hope to be President—of his country, his corporation or his union! Tell them that the American system may not be perfect but it has proven good enough to outlast all the other systems so far devised by man. Recapture your pride in being an American. Stop being ashamed to "wave the flag" a little. If it is "sophisticated" to wave the Red Flag, why is it "corny" to wave the Red, White and Blue flag?—C. B. L.


WITH ANOTHER DEER SEASON COMING UP, IT'S TIME TO THINK OF HUNTING EQUIPMENT . . . THAT IDEAL GAME LOAD FOR YOUR FALL HUNT
Sim Berryman

The members of this quintet are among our most popular deer killers: old standby .30-30; .257 Roberts; .375 Magnum; .220 Swift and the .250-3000

DEER CARTRIDGES

By F. C. NESS

THERE IS NO PHASE of this shooting game of ours where there's more room for personal preference, or more good equipment to choose from, than in the selection of a deer rifle. There are so many types of deer rifles, and so many cartridges, that any individual taste can be suited. You may like a single shot or a repeater, a bolt action, lever action, slide action, or an autoloader. Fine. There are good ones in all classes. The lay of the land as well as personal inclination can determine the ultimate choice. Hilly country or open plains that offer long-range, deliberate shots call for a powerful, scope-sighted bolt action. Brushy terrain and thick woods that afford only quick, short-range shooting demand a lighter, shorter, handier rifle instead of power and accuracy. Sufficient accuracy and power to hit and hold the game is required in both cases, but it must remain adequate up to 300 yards in the former and only up to one half the distance in the latter. As far as cartridges are concerned, the possibilities are legion—and most of them are good.

From the standpoint of killing power, the cartridge comes first. Deer country that imposes long shots demands power and accuracy. Adequate long-range performance can be had only from a relatively slow and heavy bullet in front of a powerful load. It might be a special-purpose bolt action with the .375 Magnum 270 grain load, or the .300 Magnum 180 grain for extreme ranges. More commonly it would be a fine bolt-action sporter with the .30-'06 180 grain load, the .270 Winchester 130 grain load, the 7 mm. 175 grain, or the .30-40 Krag 220 grain. The latter rimmed cartridge could be used for the long ranges in an equally heavy single-shot rifle. Scope equipped, all the above rifles have killed deer as far as 800 yards upon occasion, but actually the effective range of any of the factory loads mentioned is no greater than one half of that.

For ranges up to 300 yards there are better deer loads in some of these same calibers. These are the .30-'06 150 grain and the 7 mm. 139 grain. For saving meat, the .270 Winchester 150 grain might also be preferred by some hunters, although it does not kill deer as well as the .30 caliber bullet of the same weight. This limitation of distance lets in the .257 Roberts 117 grain load, the .250 Savage 100 grain, and the 6.5 mm. with 160 grain bullets. We are concerned with hitting and stopping deer 250 to 300 yards from the shooter, and these three last-named rifles and loads barely qualify. The .256 Newton and 8 mm. Mauser, if available with expanding bullets in standard loads, would also qualify.

More reasonable deer ranges, under 250 yards, do not put such high premium on fine accuracy, and thus permit the use of more compact rifles, streamlined for the saddle scabbard and convenient for the southpaw shooter. These are the old Model 1895 Winchester box-magazine lever action in .30-40 caliber, the Model 1899 Savage (T or RS) in .300 Savage or .250 Savage caliber, and the Model 71 Winchester in .348 Win-

chester caliber with the 150 grain cartridge. These and the short-barrel, bolt-action carbines are all recommended as desirable 200-yard deer rifles.

Eastern Whitetail Deer

In cover where deer are jumped and taken well under 200 yards, the most popular of all deer rifles fits in, and that means the .30-30 Winchester with 170 grain load. Equivalent loads are the .30 and .32 Remington, the .32 Winchester Special, the .303 Savage, the .38-55 High Velocity, and the .32-40 High Power. The .35 Remington with 150 grain load might well be included here. Equivalent light and handy rifles are the Model 64 Winchester, Model 1899 Savage, and Model 36 Marlin lever actions. Add the Model 141 Remington slide action, and the Model 81 Remington autoloader. These all are 150-yard deer rifles.

Where deer are regularly bagged under 100 yards, lesser loads will suffice, and that lets in as the acceptable minimum the .25-35 Winchester and .25 Remington with 117 grain bullets. The modern Hi-Speed loads in the .38-40 and .44-40 calibers do not give sufficient penetration for quartering or end shots and cannot be considered adequate for shooting jumped or running deer, although their bullets kill well enough up to sixty yards when properly placed in the chest cavity or neck. It would be more logical to use the .22 High Power Savage 70 grain load or the .219 Zipper 56 grain, with which such required hits can be made with greater surety and which kill fully as well at 100 yards. Better than any of these short-range loads would be the old big-bore, black-powder loads with lead bullets, from the barely adequate .41 Swiss Rim Fire to the ample .45-70. All loads of this type give adequate penetration for end shots and leave a good blood trail from broadside hits.

Mule Deer

Whenever they are available, better deer loads of modern type should be used, even in typical short-range deer cover. It is smart to stop deer cold when competition is hot, and more humane at all times. For these short shots, up to 100 yards, a pretty good rule is to exclude any load that does not develop at least 900 foot-pounds of muzzle energy. Even so, the sectional density of the bullet (weight per caliber) may not be adequate for endwise penetration to the vital organs. Unless the velocity is high, bullet weight is one of the most important factors in effective killing. For ranges between 100 and 200 yards, the exclusion rule must be more rigid, with a minimum requirement of 900 foot-pounds of *remaining energy* at 100 yards. That would exclude the .219 Zipper, .22 H.P. Savage, .44-40 High Velocity, and .38-55 Winchester, but it would let in the better .41 Swiss 310 grain bullet and the .38-55 High-Velocity load.

For deer hunting alone there are rifles better adapted to this purpose than to any other. These "typical" deer rifles are the Model 64 Winchester (former version, the Model 1894), the Model 1899 RS Savage (older model, the 1899), the Model 36 A Marlin (older model, the 1893), and the Model 141 Remington slide action (formerly, the Model 14). The first three are lever actions, all being tubular magazine repeaters. They are flat and compact for the saddle scabbard, quick on the draw, and handy in operation for repeated shots at jumped deer and for short-range shots at any running game. Typical deer loads in these rifles are the .30-30 170 grain and its equivalents, already mentioned.

The bigger lever actions will kill better on equal hits but they are not as light and fast and handy for the deer hunter nor as well adapted as a daily tool for the rancher or range rider. These heavier and slightly slower rifles are the old Model 1895 Winchester with its awkward box magazine, and the modern Model 71 Winchester (older model, the 1886), both designed for game bigger than deer. The best calibers in the Model 1895 lever action were the .30-40, .35 Winchester, and .405 Winchester, the latter load having been successfully used on thick-skinned African big game. The old Model 1886 was made for American big game in such popular calibers as the .33 Winchester and the .45-70. Its modern version is made for the same purpose with its .348 Winchester 200 grain load. In its general category there is the Model 141 Remington (formerly the Model 14) with its .35 Remington 200 grain load, and in the same caliber the clumsier Model 81 autoloader (formerly the Model 8). All these are more accurately classified as short-range timber rifles for moose, bear, and elk, but they will serve as deer killers, also.

All of these rifles are better adapted for the use of the left-handed hunter than are any of the bolt actions. They are also better adapted for those who hunt on horseback. There is one bolt action that has a smoother outline than the ungainly autoloader included in the list. This the Mannlicher Schoenauer with its flat, close-fitting bolt handle and its one-piece stock extending to the muzzle. It is as handy in carrying and as quick in shooting as any typical deer rifle, but it is not a fast repeater because of the flat handle and the long reach required to grasp it firmly and surely. Poorest for the saddle purpose in this group, but better than standard bolt actions, are those custom sporters made with close-fitting bolt handles and short, carbine-length barrels.

Among the better standard bolt-action sporters are the Model 30S Remington, the Model 1898 Sporting Mauser, the Model 70 Winchester, and the Model 720 Remington. Among the better military bolt actions for custom sporters, we have the Model 1917 (Enfield), the Model 1898 Mauser, and the Model 1903 Springfield. The stronger action of the Japanese .256 Arisaka rifle might well be included here. Both enemy actions, Mauser and Arisaka, must be treated with caution if made in the last three years, because of the uncertainty of material quality and heat-treatment adequacy, as well as for a warranted suspicion of deliberate sabotage applied in their manufacture. Proof firing offers the only complete safety assurance to the prospective shooter of any action. I wish every gunsmith could emulate the fixed policy of Johnson Automatics, which is to proof-fire every job that comes to their gunsmithing plant, regardless of apparent condition.

Among the weaker standard bolt actions, those adapted for pressures well under 45,000 pounds per square inch of chamber area, the best of all is the smooth-working Model 1898 Krag

(also, 1892, 1894, and 1896 rifle, and 1899 carbine) in .30-40 caliber. There is also the Model 1888 Mannlicher, the straight-pull Mannlicher in the same 7.9 x 57 mm. caliber, and the Model 1893 Spanish Mauser in 7 mm. caliber, among the better-known foreign guns in this weaker category. In American bolt actions there is the old, short, lightweight Model 1920 Savage and the later Model 40 and Model 45, all well adapted for the .250 Savage cartridge in this pressure bracket. The Model 1920 was not as rigid as it ought to have been for its .300 Savage caliber and the other two were not adequate in bolt design for their powerful .30-'06 caliber, with locking lugs located several inches back of the cartridge base as in lever actions. The .303 British rimmed cartridge of the stronger Model 1905 Ross military rifle was a glorified Krag loaded to higher pressures, and the 7.62 mm. Russian rifle had a glass-hard action that shattered dangerously when converted to .30-'06 caliber, although its fine standard load of equivalent ballistics gave no trouble.

For frail or slight hunters, the bolt actions indicated are the short-barrel carbines of Krag or Mannlicher derivation, or custom sporters of seven-pound weight on short actions, for which the best cartridge is the .250 Savage, although the .300 Savage or .35 Remington could be used. Although the Model 70 carbine with twenty-inch barrel is very popular in .270 Winchester caliber, people sensitive to recoil or those having light bolt-action sporters, under seven pounds, should choose lighter loads in the following order: .25 Remington, .250 Savage, 7 mm., .257 Roberts, and .300 Savage. The latter is only slightly less vicious than the .270 Winchester, or .30-'06.

There is one other deer cartridge, under dispute in some places, that must be mentioned here, because its insignificant recoil makes it ideal for slight or sensitive shooters. It is the .220 Swift in the standard Model 70 Winchester bolt action. Irrespective of isolated opinions to the contrary, it is a reliable deer slayer up to 250 yards. Its extremely high velocity makes its small, light bullets more effective at 100 yards than those of the .25-35 at the muzzle, and there is no question of its deer-killing superiority over the universal .30-30 deer cartridge beyond 150 yards. Its fine accuracy, low trajectory, and negligible recoil disturbance all lend themselves to exact placement of its deadly bullets on the longest practical deliberate shots, far beyond the capabilities of typical deer rifles and cartridges.

Arizona Whitetail

For short-range jump shooting, I prefer the lever-action repeater or double rifle with shotgun sights, or with straight-bar, flat-top open sights. That, however, is specialty shooting, and for general-purpose deer hunting I would take the .220 Swift bolt action with 4X hunting scope and cross hairs. For deer shooting, the open sights on the barrel are best at sixty yards, and adequate to about 100 yards. The big-hole peep sight near the eye and the wide-field, low-power hunting scope serve well up to about 200 yards, but for longer ranges the four-power hunting scope is clearly superior. The four-power or six-power hunting scope with medium-fine cross hairs, or fine cross hairs and suitable 1½-minute center dot is almost a must on a bolt-action deer rifle that has to double for its owner as a varmint rifle.

One more question: What about varmint loads for rifles that were selected primarily as deer killers?

Bullets to be avoided in deer shooting are the 46 grain Hornet type in the .219 Zipper or .220 Swift, the 87 grain in .25 caliber rifles, and the 110 grain in .30 caliber rifles. These are all standard loads better adapted to varmint shooting. For the latter purpose, they are adequately accurate beyond 100 yards only in good bolt actions. For equal dependency, the varmint bullet must stay in a three-inch circle against a foot for the deer bullet. Cut it in half and you have one and one-half inches against six. Or, be more generous and make it two inches spread allowance to stay on a crow at 200 yards and eight inches of equally vital area on a deer at the same distance. That is a considerable difference and few deer cartridges can qualify, even in good bolt actions. In factory loads the best dual-purpose caliber is the .220 Swift, followed by the .250 Savage. In handloads, the .257 Roberts and .30-'06 would crowd the latter as would the .270 Winchester with 95 grain and 100 grain handloads. The only other bolt actions in the running are custom sporters in such rimmed calibers as the .30-40 and .25-35, or the standard .25 Remington bolt action, all with special handloads. In falling-block, single-shot deer rifles, the .25-35, .32-40, .38-55, and .30-40 calibers would lead the pack with both factory fodder and handloads. In custom converted rifles of this type, any of the rimless loads above would do as well. We are not considering wildcats here, and no target-type varmint scope is allowed unless it is built primarily or adequately strong for deer hunting.

Blacktail Deer

For the high-velocity, high-pressure handloads favored by varmint shooters in their deer rifles, the best and strongest bolt actions have already been indicated. For adequate strength in falling-block, single-shot rifles, the best action is the thick-wall, high-side Winchester in original blued finish (not case-hardened), the heavier Haemmerli-type of Martini, and the heavier models of Farquharson (not in the white but heat-treated) of Westley Richards, Holland & Holland, or Gibbs make. These will all handle the .220 Swift and the hottest .30-'06 loads. Next, for medium-pressure deer loads, such as the 7 mm. and .300 Savage, the thin-wall, high-side Winchester, the heavier sporting-type B.S.A. (not the No. 12 or No. 15), the regular Farquharson, and the Sharps-Borchardt. These are also needed for heavy handloads in the .250 Savage and .30-40 Krag case. For the lower pressures of the .25-35, .30-30 Winchester, and .32-40 High Power, the Remington Hepburn, thick-wall, casehardened, high-side Winchester, and the casehardened 44½ Stevens (not the Improved 44) are indicated. The heavy, clumsy Model 1874 side-hammer Sharps might do here, although less desirable. It has the objectionable sloping ignition of the Farquharson without the latter's quick

lock time and trim receiver. For still lower pressures in straight-wall cases (not bottleneck) including the .357 S&W Magnum, the rolling-block Remington, the Union Hill Ballard, and the Pacific Ballard will do.

The Ballards are fine for rim-fire calibers as they have the quickest lock time of all hammer rifles, but their breechblocks and actions are in two parts, split all the way back. The rolling-block hammer rifles have weak manual cartridge seating and case extraction, both thumb operated. All the hammerless rifles have quick lock time. Of these, the heavy sporting-type Martini has the most convenient loading and positive extraction for cartridges as heavy as the .30-'06. The Farquharson has good double extractors but a too-heavy, off-angle striker. The Sharps-Borchardt requires a striker retractor provision or the entire action must be dismounted when the pin sticks in a punctured primer. All falling blocks must be properly breeched, pinned, and linked, and their strikers must be properly shaped, fitted for protrusion, and bushed for close fit in their breech face orifice. This entails the expert attention of a competent single-action gunsmith experienced with the mechanics of falling blocks.

It adds up to an almost unlimited choice, whether the deer hunter wants his rifle to be a specialized arm for that and no other shooting, or as a combination, all-around rifle for deer, varmints, and even occasional heavier game. Any survey of available deer rifles and cartridges inevitably brings out one fact: There are hundreds of adequate rifle-cartridge combinations. Most of them are good, and any of them will do the job under the right conditions. Short of attempting 400-yard shots with a .30-30, or using a .300 Magnum for jump shooting in brush, the American hunter can select any one of a hundred outfits and, if he can use it to the limit of its potentialities, there will be venison on the table. ◆ ◆ ◆

TIGHTEN YOUR BELT, DUCK HUNTER!

WILL SIMPLE ARITHMETIC, waterfowl's predator supreme, force the wild duck from our marshes? Here is a way that it might do just that, provided interference from thinking shooters is not forthcoming.

Hunting pressure increased while the ducks experienced a cyclic decrease during the last two years. In business, when you spend more than your income and plan to spend even more, it's fairly easy to compute the date on which your account will be overdrawn. For the past two years, we have killed more birds than were produced in the duck business. Coincident with the first year of this unsound practice, the annual inventory of the Fish and Wildlife Service showed a total population loss of 20 million birds. The Service fears that this year's inventory is apt to exhibit an additional decline. Within the next two years, duck blinds will shelter more tenants than they have ever done before—an estimated increase of 30 percent!

In this problem of simple arithmetic, add the above figure to the fact that in spite of wartime conditions with restrictions on gasoline, tires, and ammunition, the number of duck hunters increased about 27 per cent from 1943 to 1944. Then last year, long before the final duck stamp returns were in, sales stood at their highest point in history.

Now, with complete freedom from inhibiting factors, the potential figure for this fall's number of hunters is snowballing in a manner that should strike fear to Mr. and Mrs. Quack. What are you going to do about it? Mr. Albert M. Day, the new Director of our Fish and Wildlife Service, claims that the business of game management is about one-half managing game and one-half managing people. By becoming better acquainted with the fundamental facts of game management and exercising more good business judgment with less optimistic rationalizing, hunters can permit the Fish and Wildlife Service to devote more time to its primary task of managing game. For the past two years, while the duck business was showing a bad trend, the Service was forced to resist great pressure in Congress for the relaxation of hunting privileges.

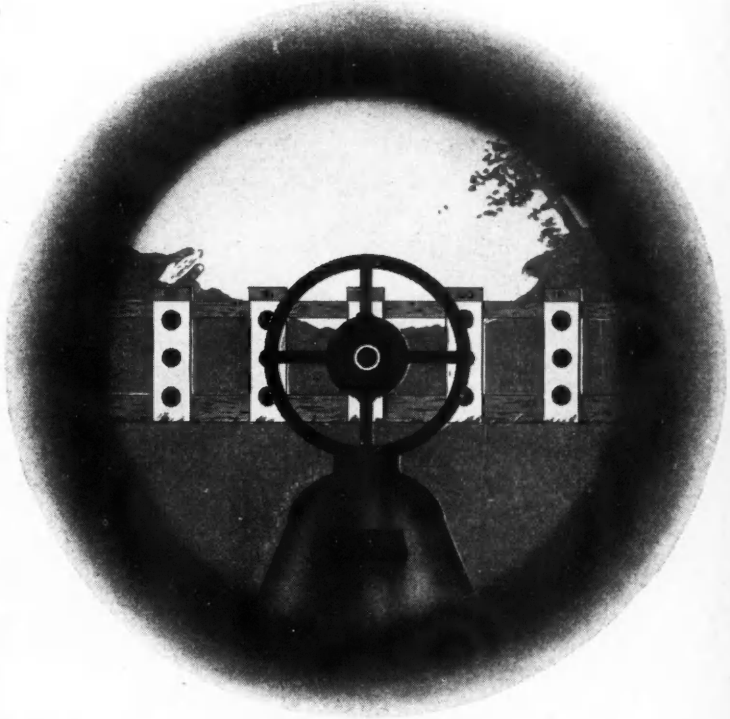
That job was forced upon them by shotgunning citizens who did not want to be informed on subjects which dealt with so-called "pessimistic" topics, such as a severe Southwest drought, dust storms, and prevailing conditions which are very similar to the picture fifteen years ago when we began the worst period of our economic history.

It is unfortunate that we are entering a low cycle just when the serviceman returns to the field, but to those who are changing from Garand to L. C. Smith, I suggest placing the blame on nature rather than on the bungling of "home-front" forces.

Mr. Day believes that a shorter duck season or reduced bag limit, or both, is going to be in order. If that happens to be the answer to our problem, let's assist our Government conservation boys by gracefully accepting their decisions. They have no desire for blind obedience; they prefer intelligent compliance based on *accurate* conservation education, combined with the application of sound business reasoning.—J. S. R. ◆ ◆ ◆

"HIT OR MISS"

By EDWARDS BROWN, Jr.



BEFORE I BECAME REALLY SERIOUS about this shooting business I had a lot of experience missing small game. Even with near misses I couldn't seem to scare anything to death, although I've heard that a shrew can be killed by nothing more than the shock of a loud noise. Most animals, however, do not have as delicate nervous systems as the little shrew. While target shooting on an improvised range, about all I got was open air and rubbed elbows. I finally decided that I was either going to sell my equipment or learn to shoot. Target shooting equipment, in particular, is rather expensive, and packing it around isn't much fun.

To be an effective shot with a .22 rim-fire rifle, or for that matter, with any other rifle, one of the first considerations is the sight combination and how to use it intelligently. Going afield after game or going to rifle matches gives you the opportunity to enjoy the open air and rub elbows with some good fellows, but there is even more enjoyment in store for you if you can make the most of your equipment.

After sizing up the situation I decided first to concentrate on my sights and find out everything there was to know about them. I took the rear sight apart and carefully determined the thread pitch of the windage and elevation screws. Both screws had twenty-five threads to the inch. Five minutes of angle were indicated for each turn of the knobs, and one minute moved the aperture in windage or elevation .008 inch. It happened that my sighting radius, measured from rear aperture to front aperture, was thirty inches. By elementary geometry, it was not hard to figure that one minute adjustment moved my hits .96 inch at 100 yards, and so on. Geometric reasoning also showed me that I must move the rear aperture to the right, relative to the barrel, in order to move the impact of my shots to the right, and that to move the impact up, the aperture must be raised relative to the barrel. I did this work soon after finishing my college education, and naturally used the most difficult approach possible.

THERE'S A LOT MORE TO MARKSMANSHIP THAN MEETS THE EYE . . . AND KNOWING YOUR SIGHTS IS HALF THE BATTLE. HERE, GRAPHICALLY TOLD IN WORDS AND CHARTS, IS THE DOPE ON SIGHTS AND HOW TO USE THEM

Application of a few horse-sense principles will give much more accurate results, and much more quickly. The thing to do is wait for a quiet day, shoot a ten-shot group, and then move the sights up or down, say eight clicks, and to the left or right the same amount. Shoot a group after each of the two adjustments. Measure the distance between the centers of impact of the first and second targets, then between the second and third targets. Divide each measurement by eight and you have accurately determined the distance which one click on your sight will move you in elevation and windage at the range used for the test.

Some American-made sights move up with a clockwise turn of the knob and some move down. You can determine the direction by taking a few clicks and observing the direction on the scale. This same technique can be used relative to the windage adjustment. If you forget which way you must adjust your rear aperture to move your shots in a given direction on the target, just imagine an extreme condition. For example: you want to determine which way your center of impact will move on the target if you move your sight to the right, relative to the barrel. Imagine the rear aperture moved one foot to the right instead of trying to think in thousandths of an inch. If you were aiming through an aperture one foot to the right of the receiver, it would not be difficult to tell which way your rifle was moved. It is plain to see that your shot would be far to the right on the target. This same bit of deductive reasoning can be applied to elevation. To figure out the direction of adjustment, remember that your line of sight stays fixed. It is the position, in space, of the center line of the bore which you are changing when you adjust sights, and not the aperture.

In small-bore shooting, minutes of angle, or fractions of minutes, are used as an increment of measure of sight adjust-

ment. One minute of angle, for all practical purposes, equals one inch at 100 yards. Most target sights, both scope and iron, have one-fourth-minute clicks, although some are now being made with one-eighth-minute clicks. The exactness of this measurement is of course dependent upon the distance between sights (sighting radius) when using iron sights, or the distance between your scope blocks when using external micrometer adjustments with target scope sights. If you are using internal adjustments in a hunting scope, the mounting has nothing to do with your sight adjustment. The degree of movement of your center of impact in this case is dependent solely on what is built into the scope and not on the mounting.

Change Sight Setting in Going From	Long Rifle High Velocity Solid Bullet and Hollow Point		Super Match, Targetmaster, Xpert, Police Match (H. V.)		Palma Kleanbore, Dewar		Long (High Velocity)		Short (High Velocity)		Long (Regular Velocity)		Short (Regular Velocity)	
	Min.	¼ Min. Clicks	Min.	¼ Min. Clicks	Min.	¼ Min. Clicks	Min.	¼ Min. Clicks	Min.	¼ Min. Clicks	Min.	¼ Min. Clicks	Min.	¼ Min. Clicks
50 ft. to 50 yds.	¼	1	¼	1	¼	1	¼	1	¼	1	½	2	½	2
50 yds. to 100 yds.	5½	22	6¼	25	6½	26	7	28	7½	30	11½	46	12	48
100 yds. to 200 yds.	15½	62	17½	69	18	72								

Figure 1: Basic sight change table, for rifle with line of sight 1.4-inch above line of bore

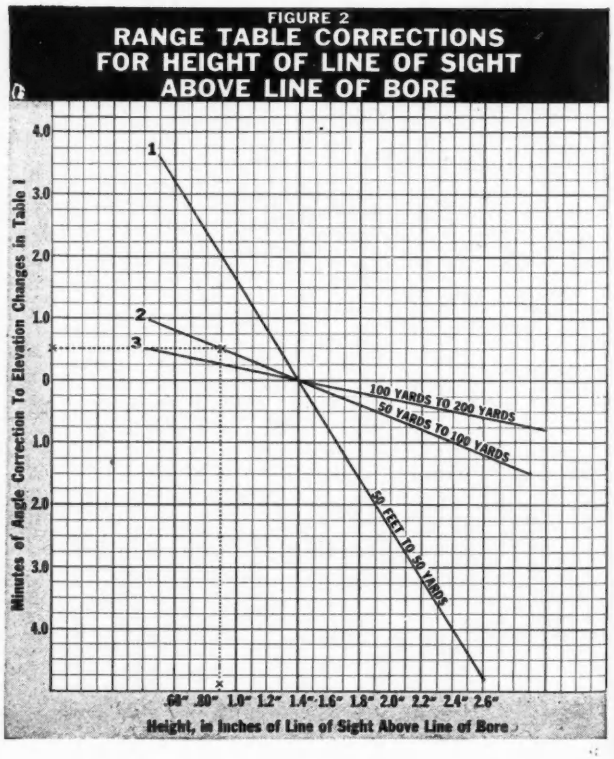
Slight differences in sighting radius make very little difference in the movement of your center of impact for a given sight adjustment. When using a twenty-eight-inch barrel on a bolt-action rifle, an extension sight increasing the radius by a full three inches would reduce movement of the center of impact on the target at 100 yards only about .08 inch for a supposed one minute adjustment. On the other hand, three extra inches between sights on a twenty-three- or twenty-four-inch barrel would have much more effect on the change of impact resulting from the fixed click adjustments of your sight.

Did you ever have a fellow shooter tell you the number of clicks he has to crank up to change from the fifty-foot setting to fifty yards or 100 yards, and then try to use the same corrections yourself? Chances are, you found that you were too high or low, even though both of you were using the same lot of ammunition. There are four principal reasons for this apparently unreasonable discrepancy. Incidentally, one of them is *not* the fact that the barrels of the two rifles vibrate differently. Barrel vibration in this particular problem cancels out. It may account for some of the difference in centers of impact between two types of ammunition in the same rifle when fired with the same setting, or may be responsible for variations of jump in different rifles, but not for differences in elevation adjustment when going from one range to another. This point should be emphasized. There are a lot of shooters who will debate this subject at the drop of a hat.

Everything else being equal, the four major factors affecting the difference in the number of clicks required to elevate various rifles from a short range to a longer range when using the same ammunition are: 1) the distance one click moves the rear aperture relative to the barrel, since various makes of sights differ. 2) Height of the center of your front aperture or scope above the center of the bore. 3) Sighting radius, and 4) The effect of barrel length on velocity. Included in this article is a table and some charts which give all of the data necessary to make up an accurate range table for your particular rifle, taking all of the important factors into consideration, including the type of ammunition you may use. No allowance is made in these charts for change in velocity as a result of variance in barrel length, because within reasonable limits there is little change in center of impact for this reason.

While you are trying your sights at some known range to see how much one click moves the center of impact on the target, adjust them to various settings, keeping a record of how many clicks you move each time. Shoot a five-shot group at each setting. After measuring the distance between each group, check back in your record and see if the sights are consistent. Some individual sights, particularly among the lower-priced ones, have an excessive amount of take-up in them. Some of these low-priced micrometer adjustment sights occasionally have greater than one minute of play in the parts. In other words, under fluctuating wind conditions, when changing direction in your adjustment, you may take four or more clicks before the aperture moves. This makes the sight practically worthless for target shooting. There are a few medium-priced rear sights, selling for about $8.00, which are very reliable. These include the Redfield 70, and the Vaver 3875.

If you are a target shooter, your next consideration is the proper size of front and rear apertures. This calls for some experimental work on your part, as every eye is different. One thing you should guard against: don't try to squeeze the bullseye into the smallest aperture available. You can bring the bull just so close to the inner edge of your front aperture, and then it has the same effect as touching the meniscus surface of a drop of ink spilled on the top of a desk. Touch that drop with a pencil point at the desk's surface and the drop loses shape and spreads. Select the aperture with which you get your best definition under varying light conditions. You don't gain



anything by using an extremely small aperture, and you may lose by getting it so fine that the bullseye is fuzzy. It's going to look fuzzy enough to you under the best conditions. By the way, don't be alarmed and rush to the eye doctor if the "sight picture" is not as distinct as these gallery charts usually illustrate it. Your aperture is going to have cobwebs and tiny crawling things in it that just won't wipe out.

Sometimes the sight picture appears to be worse than usual. This symptom usually indicates eye fatigue. If you have normal vision you can improve the picture by taking your eye away from the sight and focusing on some distant scenery, preferably down the range rather than behind the firing line. This rests your eyes and the sight picture will clear up. You have plenty of time to take these little eye rests during record strings on the firing line.

If you still think an extremely small aperture is important, try a simple test. Take out the rear or front aperture entirely, leaving only the large threaded rim. You may be surprised at the respectable groups you can shoot with this big "aperture."

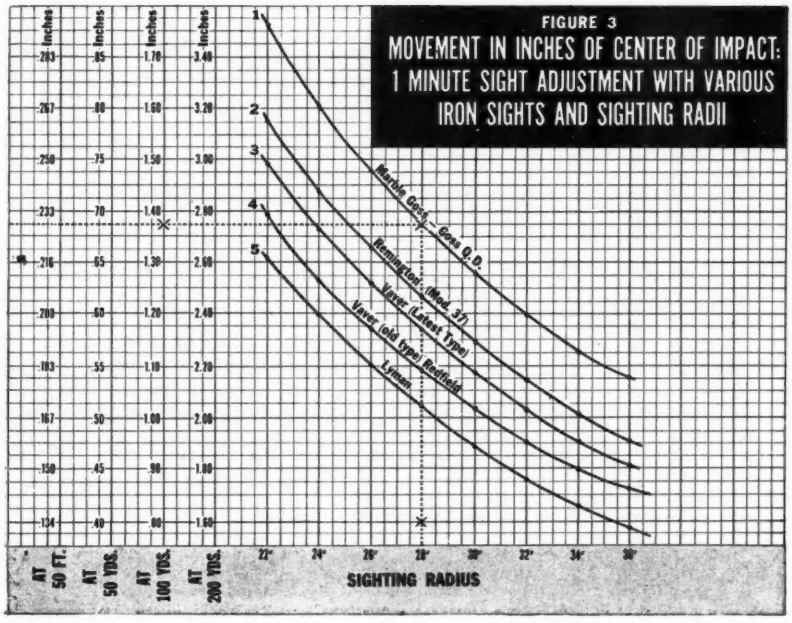


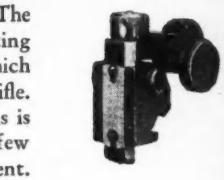
FIGURE 3
MOVEMENT IN INCHES OF CENTER OF IMPACT: 1 MINUTE SIGHT ADJUSTMENT WITH VARIOUS IRON SIGHTS AND SIGHTING RADII

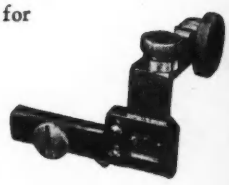
always find a range offering the distance at which they wish to zero their rifle. The hunter may want to leave on a hunting trip with a new iron sight or scope which he has not been able to test on his rifle. His best way out under these conditions is to step off a short distance and take a few shots to give a basis for further adjustment.

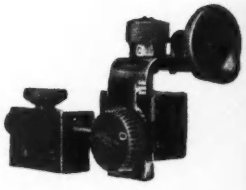
He will undoubtedly have one of the many range tables which are published in ammunition handbooks. The chances are that after a day's shooting he will be very unhappy about the fact that his rifle does not respond to the figures indicated in the table. On the other hand, he may have received some dope from a friend who has a rifle which handles the same load that he is using. The odds are still good that he will be unhappy. There is a reason for

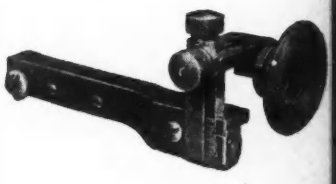
SOME POPULAR SIGHTS

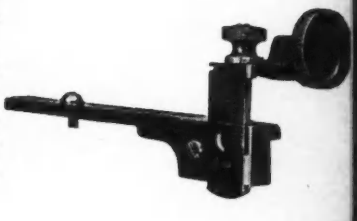
Remington 37
Lyman 48
Redfield 70
Vaver 37RM
Winchester 75
Marble-Goss
Goss QD











these discrepancies, as pointed out earlier in this article. The range tables or the data he got from his friend are correct for one set of conditions only. They are good only for a rifle having a specific type of sight, mounted a specific height above the bore with a specific sight radius.

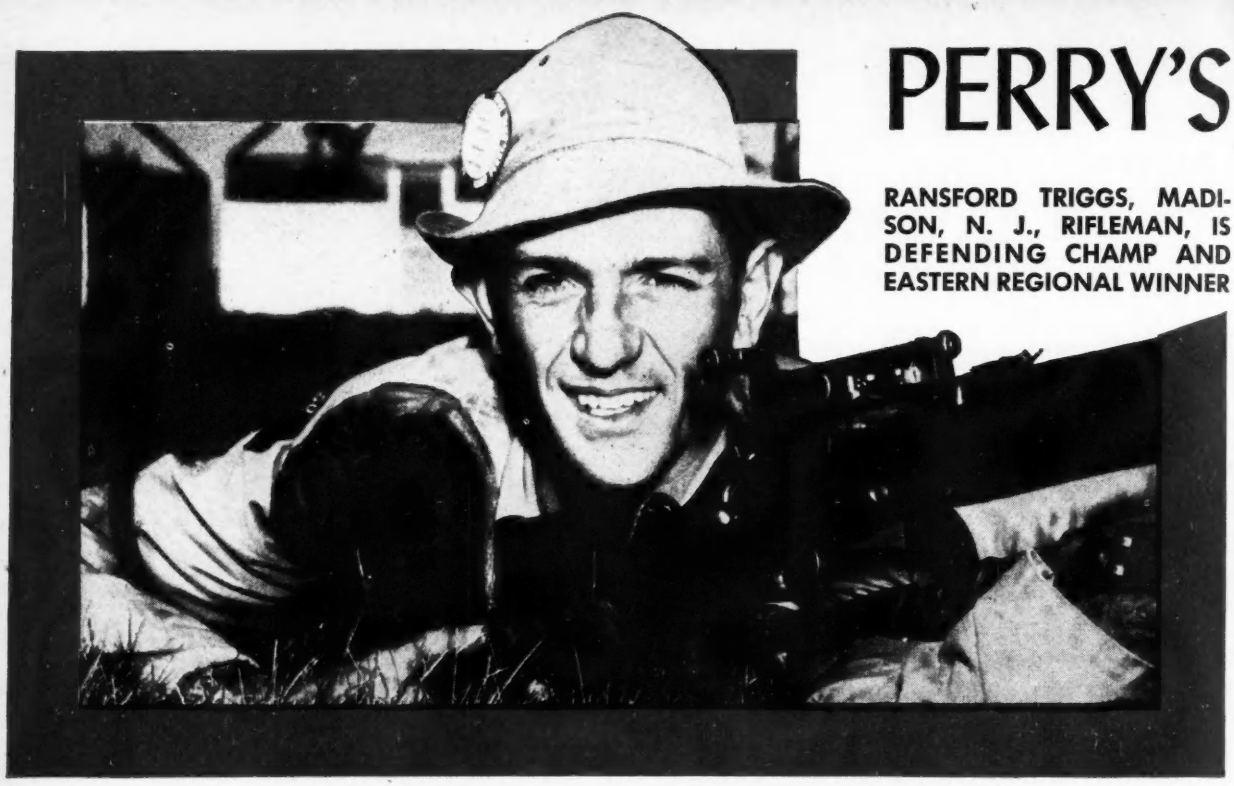
Figure 1 shows a form of range table which specifies the adjustment in minutes, or one-fourth minutes, necessary in going from one range to

(*Continued on page* 18)

For best results, first try a front aperture measuring about .10 inch and a rear aperture measuring about .060. Good scores have been stacked up using this combination.

The scope sight also offers some advantages over iron sights for target shooting but, strangely, iron sight scores average about as high as those fired with scopes. There are plenty of instances in which iron sights have won any-sight matches. It is much easier, however, to dope wind when using a scope sight, because you can watch conditions while you are in shooting position. After you have the dope it is also easier to hold off accurately when making allowances for quick wind changes. On the average, a scope sight should be good for about five more X's over the Dewar course.

Most shooters at some time or other have run up against the problem of "sighting in" a rifle for some specific range. The problem is usually most difficult among hunters, who do not



PERRY'S

RANSFORD TRIGGS, MADISON, N. J., RIFLEMAN, IS DEFENDING CHAMP AND EASTERN REGIONAL WINNER

ON THE RIFLE RANGE . . .

SINCE 1937, WHEN 28-YEAR OLD RANSFORD TRIGGS shot his way into a berth on the American international Dewar team, the tall, good-natured New Jersey shooter has been a top contender for U. S. small bore honors. In 1941, his win over Dave Carlson gave him the national crown he is defending now at Perry . . . and that's backed up by the Eastern regional title he took at Altoona this summer.

Unlike the gulf that stands between Reeves and his closest regional challenger, Triggs is ahead by small margins, and one regional winner, Hamby, has already outscored him. Triggs' victory in the Eastern regional was typical of the jockeying that has gone on between top contenders. The Jersey champ lost the iron sight aggregate to Lacy by two points, then picked up enough to win the all-around with 3182, over such competition as ex-champs Carlson and three-timer Woodring. From the rest of the country, Triggs can look for tough going. Triggs must face Southwestern regional winner Ed Kell, the Oklahoman who holds the Perry any sight Dewar record. Winner of the Southeastern for both 1941 and 1946 is veteran Charlie Hamby of Atlanta, who trimmed his closest 1946 rival by a flat 20 points. His 3190 aggregate so far is high for the '46 regionals—eight points over Triggs' winning total. From the Midwest, Kyle Snowhill, and from the Far West, Robert E. Perkins, three-time winner of the Pacific Coast small bore title, are contesting Triggs' bid for a second season as title holder. Other regional winners, still undecided as we go to press, will be on hand to ensure a tough victory for Triggs or anyone else.

Now facing his stiffest test as a small bore shooter, Triggs seems to be in top form for another win—but so do a lot of the challengers. It looks like a close race—Triggs' consistency against everything from equivalent steadiness to flash-in-the-pan brilliance among the contenders for his title. And, as always, the title can hang by a single point, or a single X . . . a tricky wind, or a single bad guess. Not many short-gun shooters are willing to give odds against Reeves' second term, but on the small bore ranges, anybody's guess is a good one!

Here's what they're shooting at—the top Camp Perry scores of past years:

Course	*Score*	*Year*	*Winner*
Small Bore Rifle:			
Dewar metallic	400-33X	1940	Hawcock
Dewar scope	400-35X	1940	Kell
50 meter Metallic	400-22X	1941	Willman
50 meter scope	400-32X	1941	Dean
Pistol:			
.45 NM Course	288	1940	O'Connor
.38 NM Course	291	1939	Jones
.22 NM Course	296	1939	Rogers

DEFENDING CHAMPIONS

AFTER FIVE YEARS OF WARTIME LAY-OFFS, U. S. CHAMPS WITH RIFLE AND PISTOL ARE AGAIN "SHOOTING IT OUT" ON THE LAKESIDE RANGES OF OHIO'S CAMP PERRY . . . AGAINST HUNDREDS OF HOPEFUL CHALLENGERS FOR THE COVETED CRITCHFIELD AND NATIONAL PISTOL TROPHIES

ON THE PISTOL RANGE . . .

DETROIT POLICEMAN HARRY REEVES IS FAVORITE TO HOLD PISTOL CROWN. HE IS UNDEFEATED IN ALL-AROUND COMPETITION SINCE NATIONALS IN 1940

As this issue goes to press, Detroit's Harry Reeves looks like a fair bet for the 1946 National handgun title. It should be no new feeling to ex-Marine Reeves, who carried the same national crown away from Perry in 1941. As defending champion, the genial pistol wizard stands undefeated in all-around competition since his championship win in '41. His showing in the Quantico regionals, where he bettered the '46 Eastern second place score by 18 points, backs up his chances for a repeat as top U. S. handgun man.

If Harry is making good in his second bid for the national title, though, he's fighting for it. Among the hundreds of medal-hungry pistoleers on the Perry ranges are a flock of top-flight short-gun artists, and a contingent of regional winners who shot their way to area championships just for a chance at Reeves' title and crown. And there's no assurance that a dark horse will not show up to give Reeves a run for his title.

Dark horse or no, Reeves is in for serious competition from the regional winners at Perry. As this is written, some of the regionals are still unfired, but enough have been decided to give an idea of the kind of competition Reeves is facing in his bid for another year as Number One. Leading Southeastern competition against Reeves is a brash newcomer, Army Lt. Quentin Brooks of Fort Bragg, N. C. And a Marine, Walter Walsh, is hot on Harry's trail as Eastern regional title winner, after being bested 18 points over the regional course by the aforementioned Reeves. Basil Starkey of Los Angeles barely passed a feminine contender to take the Far Western regional title. Also in the line-up of regional winners at Perry is old-timer Jesse Woody, with the Southwestern title, and Seattle policeman Edward Walmsley, whose 1724 outscored 92 others for the Pacific Northwest title.

Detroit policeman Reeves' past shooting record is as unbelievably good as his apparent chances of taking the '46 championship title. As a member of the Detroit police pistol team, the heavy-set handgun expert won high aggregate honors in all but two of the dozens of big-league tournaments he entered during 1938, '39 and '40, and turned in records over five of the nine regularly established single-stage hand-gun events. Now, Reeves is back with the same uncanny skill he displayed before the war, and up to this point, is undefeated in all-around competition. This year marks Reeves' fifth at the National Matches, and his second as national champion, IF . . . but that's a big if.

The rest of the story will have to wait until next month.

SOME FACTS,
AND A FEW GUESSES,
ABOUT POSTWAR OPTICAL SIGHTS

HUNTING SCOPE PROSPECTS

A "super" .22 Wildcat, fitted with Lyman 'Alaskan' scope and special 4-power objective

By ROY E. WEATHERBY

HUNTERS' DREAMS OF FINE POSTWAR American scopes are apparently coming true. If present indications can be believed, American makers of hunting sights are taking the lead for the first time since the Germans started marketing their almost legendary hunting telescopes. Lyman, Weaver, Norman-Ford, Noske, and various other makers are announcing hunting scopes that should now free hunters from the necessity of paying sky-high prices for German instruments if they want the best. It is imaginable that before long American cameras, rifle telescopes, and every other breed of optical equipment will equal the fine German products that held for so long an unchallenged position for excellence, accuracy, and general usefulness.

Years ago, a few foreign telescopic sights for rifles began to filter into this country. The American sportsmen picked them up eagerly, and they became very popular. Before long, our American optical companies realized the value of this type of sighting equipment and began to manufacture hunting and target scopes of their own, but there still was nothing on the market that gave these German hunting scopes much competition.

Scopes were turned out under a lot of names: Lyman, Noske, Weaver, Fecker, Unertl, Litschert, and others, and there was considerable competition then, especially among the low-powered hunting telescopes. Even then, the German Zeiss and Hensoldt scopes were considered superior. True, there was a question of whether they were superior to such scopes as the Lyman Alaskan, Noske, and some others. Target scopes of higher power appeared on the market—the Lyman Targetspot, Unertl, Litschert, and others. All of these scopes were of the external-adjustment type, the adjustments being in the mount. Few German scopes appeared on the American market in this particular field. Most of the foreign scopes were of hunting type, with internal adjustments for elevation, at least, and were held in sturdy mounts. These foreign scopes were generally manufactured with large tubes and large objective and ocular lenses. They gave considerably more field and more light-transmitting power than American target scopes.

Among these foreign hunting scopes were several which rated, as a class, among the finest of any then in existence. The popular 3-power Ajack 3x75 gave a field of view of forty-five feet at 100 yards, and a luminosity of 75. This was remarkable, and nothing surpasses it today. Tube diameter was 26½ mm., with a 36 mm. ocular, and the glass weighed slightly over eleven ounces. Most famous of the varied Ajack line was the 4x90, which gave an unbelievable field of view for 4-power, of forty feet at 100 yards, and a luminosity of ninety.

Zeiss, of course, made some fine scopes, among them the popular Zielklein, a 2½-power with about thirty-eight feet of view at 100 yards. The Zielklein is a very clear glass, with exceptional resolving power. Zeiss also made the 4-power Zielvier, and 6-, 8-, and 10-power scopes. All of them were, at that time, among the world's best. Similarly Hensoldt produced a fine line of hunting scopes. One of them was the famous 4-power Dialytan, with a thirty-foot field at 100 yards, and luminosity of eighty-one. Hensoldt had another fine glass, the Zielyt, 2¾ power, with a luminosity of 45, and forty-two foot field at 100 yards. These were extremely popular scopes, and still are, when they can be obtained.

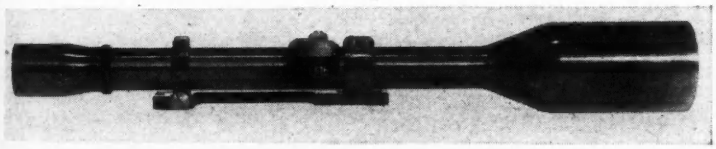
Today we no longer have to look to Germany for precision lenses. We have the facilities to produce lenses equivalent to any that have ever been ground. We have gained a great deal of experience through the war years, and due to the extensive facilities we now have, there are going to be several new scopes

ROY E. WEATHERBY *has been experimenting with small arms for fifteen years, with special emphasis on wildcat cartridges. During that time, he has tried nearly all of the successful wildcats, and designed several himself. In line with his development of "super" varmint rifles, Weatherby's interest has also centered around the fine scopes he describes in this article.*

on the market. They are already making their appearance.

Litschert has been making his new "Eagle" hunting scopes with one-inch tube, and Weaver has announced his K2.5 with a 26 mm. tube. The K2.5 has an enlarged ocular and 21 mm. objective, giving forty feet of view at 100 yards. This will put Weaver first in the large-tube field, as only the foreign scopes heretofore have had a tube of such diameter. This affords a greater field of view. Weaver has also announced his new 4-power glass with coated lenses. This has a larger ocular and objective lens, and will give us the finest 4-power hunting telescope with internal adjustments we have had to date. It is a definite improvement in scope sights. To "gild the lily," I sent one of these original K2.5's, before the maker was furnishing coated lenses, to the Acra Coating Company in Hollywood, California. The lenses were properly coated and a tremendous improvement was apparent. Then a 50 mm. objective lens was installed, changing the power from 2½ to 6, which boosted luminosity to almost 100, with a field of view of twenty-two feet at 100 yards. This is one of the finest long-range varmint scopes I have ever seen. However, it necessitates a rather high mount due to the large objective lens.

There are several new companies invading the market, among them Maxwell Smith, with the G88. The name has no particular significance. As I understand it, when they gave it this name they were working with a set of blueprints, the number of which was G88. (Foreign scopes were generally named by the power and luminosity, while foreign binoculars go by the power and the diameter of the objective.) The Maxwell Smith Company also has announced a new 4-power glass with internal windage and elevation adjustments. This glass is crystal clear, with fine resolving power.



The new Weaver K 2.5 with Martin 50-mm 6-power attachment. This combination makes an almost ideal small game scope, with field of 22 feet at 100 yards, and luminosity nearly 100

The standard Lyman Alaskan scope sight, mounted on one of the author's personal sporting rifles

G88's are planned in 2½, 4½, and 6 power, with respective fields of forty, twenty-eight, and sixteen feet at 100 yards. Eye relief will be approximately 4, 3½, and 3½ for these powers, and all will be supplied with coated lenses. Tube diameter of all three is slightly under an inch, and eyepiece diameter will be 15/16 inch.

Another recent announcement is the "Bear Cub" scope, to be marketed by M. L. Stith, already well known for his scope mounts. Plans call for a 2½-power scope, seven-eights-inch tube, and thirty-five-foot field at 100 yards. Weight will be nine ounces, and the scope will be supplied with coated optics. Also rumored is a 4-power scope bearing the Stith name.

One of the latest announcements is the "Texan," a 2½-power hunting scope made by Norman-Ford. This company also has definite plans for a 4-power glass. The Texan has internal adjustments and coated lens. With 22 mm. tube and enlarged ocular, the scope resembles in appearance the Lyman Alaskan.

It is understood that Bausch and Lomb intends to bring out a rifle scope sight, but no information is available on it at the present time. However, all indications point to something startling. The name Argus has also been mentioned in connection with rifle scopes.

Unertl is back in business and is bringing out a new line of scopes. Noske has continued with his fine scopes as in the past,

The Ajack 7.5x50 hunting scope, mounted on the author's custom-built .257 Magnum

and his 2½-, and 4-power glasses with coated lenses are claimed by many to be the finest.

The Lyman Gun Sight Company is striving to supply their extremely popular "Alaskan" hunting scope, which is acclaimed almost universally as the finest hunting scope we have had. Lyman, too, is working on a 4-power scope. It may be six months, perhaps a year or longer, but one can rest assured that when the Lyman Company brings out their 4-power glass it will be among the tops. If it is in the same category with the famous "Alaskan," it probably will surpass any similar foreign scope we have had to date.

There are still other companies which intend to manufacture scope sights, so we can definitely look for a race in the next few years, almost a contest of who will come out first and have the best. We no longer will have to rely upon the foreign countries for our rifle scopes. Within a year we will see many of them on the market. They will be light in weight, with coated lenses and higher luminosity than we have heretofore thought possible.

People have come to the realization that scope sights are extremely necessary today, especially on our high-velocity rifles. Those with even higher velocities, as built by conversion engineers and experimenters throughout the country, certainly warrant a good long-range scope sight. Some of these high-velocity rifles have trajectories of only two inches over 300 yards. It is little wonder that a good 4- or even 6-power scope is needed—a scope with considerable eye latitude and with a great deal of luminosity. Most of the new scopes will come equipped with medium-fine cross hairs or with Lee's famous dot, as that is the type that will suit most of the men who will be shooting these high-velocity rifles.

This was all yesterday's dream; it is today a reality. High-velocity rifles with high-power, long-range telescopic sights are here. A 2½-power telescope sight is not enough for the man who is the proud owner of a rifle that is capable of shooting up to 500 yards with very little hold-over. He needs at least a 4- or 6-power glass and he does not want a target sight with perhaps six feet of view at 100 yards. He wants one with forty feet or more of view at 100 yards, and he wants it to have a great deal of luminosity.

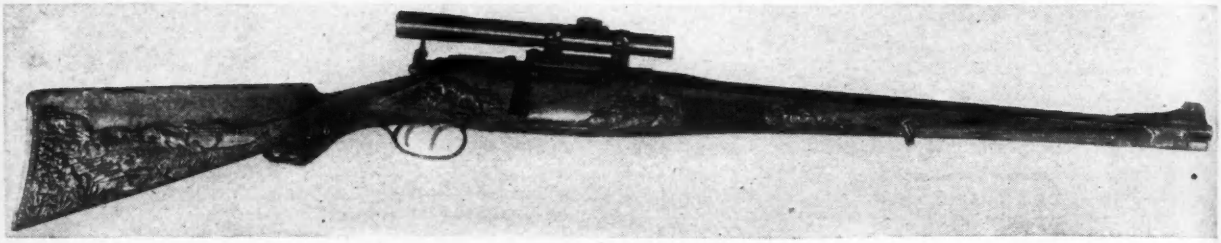
There is great demand for a short, compact 6-power scope

having very reliable internal adjustments. The demand will be met by the first company to bring out a scope comparable optically to the popular Zeiss Zielsechs. This imported scope is twelve and one-half inches long and weighs about seventeen ounces. The enlarged ends are 38 mm. for the ocular and 46 mm. for the objective. The field is twenty-one feet at 100 yards.

The demand for a medium-power, hunting-type scope is met partially now in the only way it can be at present. Scope makers like Litschert, Edwards, and many others have realized the possibilities of large objective lenses with longer focal length, to increase hunting scope power up to six. The adaptor increases the length some five to six inches and there is a moderate weight increase. The change does not affect the eye relief, but cuts the field to about one half.

Even the makers of mounts for internally adjustable scopes are keeping step with the scope makers. Besides Griffin & Howe's well-known mounts, Stith, Redfield, Turner, Hill and many others, there are some new ones appearing. For side mounts there are the Jaeger and Echo, both of which have good quick-detachable features. Another neat job, well past the development stage, is the King-Pike.

Watch the market closely—you may see some startling surprises in the not-too-distant future. ◆ ◆ ◆



A "dolled-up" Mannlicher-Schoenauer, with Zeiss 2½-power hunting scope

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"Hit or Miss"

(*Continued from page* 13)

another. These are the actual minutes for a sight mounted 1.4 inches above the bore.

If the center of the aperture of the sight which you have is mounted at a greater or lesser height, a correction is necessary. The reason for this is that the sight adjustment must be raised to allow for the distance between the line of sight and line of bore. If this distance is 1.5 inches, the elevation at 100 yards would be 1.5 minutes plus the bullet drop over 100 yards. Unless you are sighted in at the maximum ordinate of the trajectory, the bullet crosses the line of sight twice, considering everything in the same vertical plane. It is therefore possible to have a rifle sighted in so that it will be on the point of aim at two different ranges. This condition very nearly exists with Long Rifle match ammunition at fifty feet and fifty yards with a sight line 1.46 inches above the bore. With higher-powered rifles, the difference between the two ranges at which the same zero setting applies can be greater at the longer distances. By the way, when measuring the height of your line of sight use the front sight, or in the case of the scope, use the position at your front mount as a reference point.

Figure 2 gives you the correction to apply to the data in Figure 1 for height of sight. Add or subtract, as the case may be, the minutes of angle determined from this chart to the figures in the first table.

Now comes the question of different sights and sighting radius. Figure 3 tells you the number of inches that one minute of elevation or windage will move your center of impact at various ranges for some of the most common iron sights. To use this to correct Figure 1 for your particular combination, divide the result in Figure 1, as corrected by Figure 2, by the reading "at 100 yards" in Figure 3, determined for your particular sight and sighting radius. The curves in Figure 3 are based on the sights available at NRA headquarters. There may be some recent changes in sights with which we are not familiar. This chart will be kept up to date and made more complete for later publication. A chart for scope sights will also be published.

Example: Let's suppose you have a .22 caliber rifle with a Marble-Goss micrometer sight. You determine that the center of the front sight aperture is .90 inch above the center of the bore. You measure the sighting radius and find that it is twenty-eight inches. You want to use .22 Long Rifle, high-velocity.

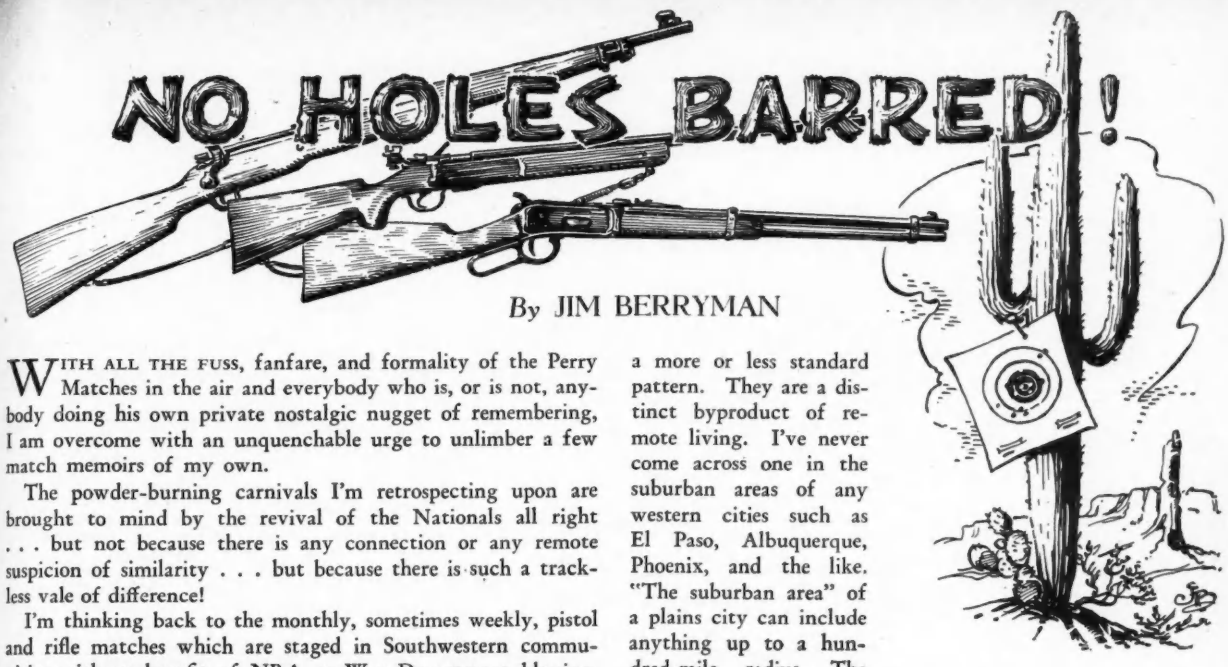
You want to find out how much you must raise your sight in going from fifty to 100 yards. Figure 1 indicates five and one-half minutes. You now find .90 inches at the bottom of Figure 2. This vertical line through .90 intersects Line 2 at a point which shows one-half minute on the left. Therefore, the elevation figure now becomes $5\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 6$ minutes.

Next go to Figure 3 and find twenty-eight inches at the bottom of the page. The vertical line through this point intersects line 1 at 1.38″ on the "at 100 yards" scale. The final elevation figure which you want now becomes $\frac{6}{1.38} = 4.35$ minutes. If you have one-fourth minute clicks, you now come up $4.35 \times 4 = 17.40$ or 17 clicks.

Figures 2 and 3 can be used for big-bore as well as small-bore combinations, and there will be additional sighting dope for high-powered rifles available for publication in the near future.

Know your equipment—it will help you win matches and bag more game. Practice helps you win too, but don't get the idea that you have to practice every day of the week to get into the winning class. If you can get out only a couple of times a month you can still win national titles, provided you have a good shooting outfit and know how to use it. ◆ ◆ ◆

NO HOLES BARRED!



By JIM BERRYMAN

WITH ALL THE FUSS, fanfare, and formality of the Perry Matches in the air and everybody who is, or is not, anybody doing his own private nostalgic nugget of remembering, I am overcome with an unquenchable urge to unlimber a few match memoirs of my own.

The powder-burning carnivals I'm retrospecting upon are brought to mind by the revival of the Nationals all right . . . but not because there is any connection or any remote suspicion of similarity . . . but because there is such a trackless vale of difference!

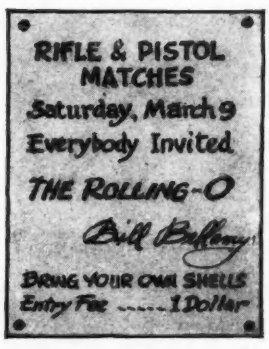
I'm thinking back to the monthly, sometimes weekly, pistol and rifle matches which are staged in Southwestern communities without benefit of NRA or War Department blessing. Nor have I ever heard of the Marines swarming ashore at the last moment, blazing their way through waist-high cactus, to have the team names inscribed on the good old battered tin tequilla dipper. There are no titles at stake—well, yes, there are, too. The winner might be the All-bore Champion of

REVIVAL OF THE NATIONAL MATCHES BRINGS TO MIND THE FRIENDLY, HOMESPUN ATMOSPHERE OF SOME LOCAL "CLASS X" TOURNAMENTS IN OUR SOUTHWEST . . .

Gullible Gulch for the Week-of-April-31st, or until the next "card-pluggin' party" takes place.

Like nearly all other functions in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas, there is a decided atmosphere of informality attending these hinterland matches . . . no qualification rounds, no regional representations, no eliminations . . . except the five lousy shots you fire! In fact, the only questions asked are, "Have you got a buck fer yur entrance fee?" and "Be you acquainted with th' rules we're a-shootin' by, stranger?"

An Eastern tenderfoot has quite a flock of inhibitions to cram down the nearest gopher hole when he competes in or spectates at one of these affairs . . . they're plenty homespun—or I should say faded-blue-denim. But there's something doggoned real American about 'em! The rankest total stranger can ride a sweat-streaked, desert-beaten pony into the "tournament grounds," receive a welcome from the host of the day, and he's in . . . in on the shoot, the round or two of "friendly-fluid" following, and the man-sized meal at twilight time.



While there are no iron clad rules governing these cattle-country target jousts, they all follow a more or less standard pattern. They are a distinct byproduct of remote living. I've never come across one in the suburban areas of any western cities such as El Paso, Albuquerque, Phoenix, and the like. "The suburban area" of a plains city can include anything up to a hundred-mile radius. The larger population centers all have rifle and pistol clubs, practically all of them affiliated with the NRA, and many of them boast excellent outdoor ranges, and luxuriously modernized clubhouses done in the mission and dobe styles. It is surprising to learn how large their membership lists have grown in the past few years. Many hundreds of cattlemen, their ranch foremen, wranglers, and punchers maintain membership just to have a "home corral" during their infrequent visits to "big town" . . . and to have a travel-weary copy of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN pulled out of a canyon letter carrier's time-worn saddle bag once a month.

As far as I could learn from some old-timers, the Saturday afternoon "powder clubs" go way back to the days long before the introduction of fancy, organized club shoots of today. One leather-skinned old boy from up in the Red Rock section was able to slant me back to the early '80's. He said: "Wa-al, Ah kin recollec' as how my dad uster oil an' clean up his Winchester an' his Colt, tie a sackful of silver cartwheels inside his belt, an' ride over to th' ol' Flyin' Heart or th' Crazy K to do a flock o' shootin' an' bettin'. Ah was jest gittin' long-legged enough then t' git m' feet down beside a pinto's belly 'stead o' stickin' out like extry fenders, an' I uster puzzle m'self as t' whether the ol' man took part in them shootin' matches 'cause they was so restful after shootin' all week at lions, cayoots, an' Injuns . . . or whether he was jest a-testin' himself an' warmin' up fer th' Saturday night faro an' monte games in Socorro. Fer as Ah kin r'member, they didn't have these purty, printed targets y'all got now . . . they made marks on a board or on th' side of a shed . . . one o' th' fav'rites, though, was 'fencin' th' X.' They'd take a hot iron or a stick with some black wheel grease an' mark a whole durn herd o' X's. Th' idee was t' put a hole in each of th' fo' notches of th' X, then drap

that fi'th slub right dead-center o' th' crossed bars."

"Y'know, son," the old man continued, "as yuh git a lot o' miles o' livin' behind yuh, some o' th' things in th' purplish haze o' yur early days 'pears awful kinda good, an' Ah remembers thet to a hardly trailbroke colt like me, my dad an' them fellers he rode with, was mighty durn good shots. Mebbe they jest plain had t'be if they wanted to go on livin' an' makin' a livin'!"

He stopped reminiscing long enough to shift his cud and take an offhand shot at a large green prickly pear blade about twelve feet away . . . it was a clean bull. Then he reached down and picked up my Winchester Model 70 Hornet. He examined it carefully, squinted thru the Lyman receiver sight which all but disappeared from view as a bushy brow curtained it, then turned to me and resumed:

"Young feller," he said, "they didn't have no such guns as this sixty years ago! Guess it's a danged good thing they didn't! Th' way they could shoot, they might a-kilt off everybody in th' whole durn West! . . . Now, don't git me wrong . . . Ah ain't sayin' yuh yearlin's today cain't shoot, but it's jest that yuh got such good rifles t'shoot with! Yep! an' lookit th' fine stuff yuh got t'shoot outen 'em!"

The faded blue eyes turned away from me . . . they looked past me, past the far horizon . . . past a half century-plus of firearms progress.

"The first rifle I remember seein' was an old Sharps carbine. It was a breech-loading single shot my dad carried through th' Civil War. He rode with Jube Early an' later with th' Fi'th Virginny Cavalry, an' he uster admit it himself thet he was a durn good horseman an' a helluva good rifleman."

He gave just a perceptible shake of his grizzled head, patted the stock of the Hornet, handed it to me and returned to the present.

"Go on down there, boy, they're startin' in t' fire th' practice shots."

I asked him if he didn't want to sign up and take a crack at the cash. He half nodded and answered:

"Ah'll be down when they git aroun' to th' pistol shootin' . . . cain't take part in th' rifle shoot . . . my ol' Krag's gone t'pasture, but Ah'll be in thar with this hyah Colt, an' tell th' boss-man not t'figger me a time fer practice . . . Ah only got five shells!"

The best way to describe one of these Western matches in the modern manner is to pick a typical set-to. The time is late February, the setting is . . . let's call it . . . the Rolling-O Ranch, high up near the head of Greenwater Creek in Castle Canyon . . . Bill Bellamy, owner, is hosting for the good folk of the canyon . . . and anybody else within walking or riding distance . . . in honor of his only son, Bill, Jr., just "fresh out of th' Navy" and three years of commanding a destroyer in Pacific actions.

Three precisely penciled announcements of the gala event have been "posted" in nearby (twenty-two miles away) Castle Station: at the Post Office, Bailey's "Trading Post" and Sorrell's Saddle Shop.

If ever there was such a thing as a blanket invitation, this was it. All a contestant needed was the desire, a dollar, some means of transportation, thirst or hunger . . . or both.

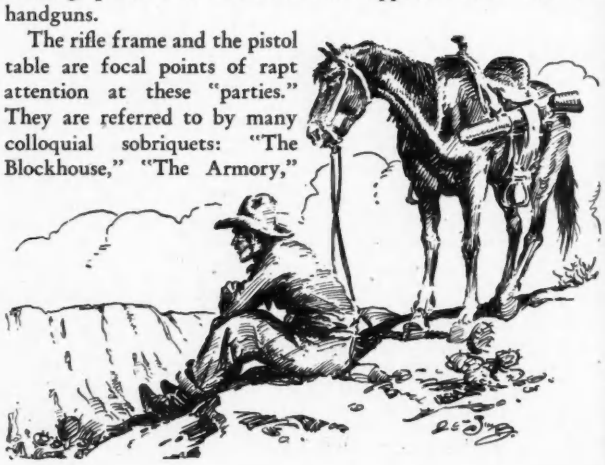
Happily, I fulfilled all five of these requirements—as did my better nine-tenths, "The Lady Known as Lou," . . . that automatically made us competitors! There were no entry blanks to fill out, no formal eligibility declarations to be submitted for approval . . . nothing to do except put in an appearance at the appointed time and place with some sort of "shootin' iron" and an extended right hand. This particular "shoot" was a mere six or seven miles from our "beddin' down spot," so just a comfortable saddle distance away.

The designated day dawned fair and fit, as do most Southwestern late winter days, and "Lady Lou" routed me from my sack at the ungodly hour of seven. Trail-packing was not nearly as difficult as planning an eastern picnic. No food for the two-legged wayfarers . . . only a few carrots and apples for the trusty steeds (a pair of fine quarter horse mares), my Winchester 70 Hornet, Lou's H&R Single-Action Target Revolver, two boxes of Westerns for her and an old leather tobacco pouch filled with 46 grain Hornets for me, one movie camera, four packs of cigarettes, and that precious old pipe of mine which Lou says smells foul even in "the great open spaces."

The sprawling ranch house of the Rolling-O outfit nestles snuggly against the north wall of a canyon. The main patio gives on a small corral which in turn fades into the fenced-in big corral down by an irrigated meadow. This lush green spot is the grazing heaven for the Bellamy string of horses and the impromptu shooting range when occasion demands. Ideal for this because it extends level about 200 yards and is walled on the south by a forty-foot bank flanking Greenwater Creek and its leaning cottonwood trees. When a shoot is staged, the "O" horses are turned out to the lower level where they stand craning their pretty necks across the four-rail gate until the first firing pin falls. Then, with a tumult of frantic whinnying and flailing hooves, they take off for secluded corners . . . all except the half dozen or so gunwise mounts who hopefully await gun-toting riders and sniffing lion hounds.

By the time the contestants begin to arrive, "the range" has been all set up by Bill's hands. All staked out for distance, shooting mats (horse blankets stuffed with straw), spotting scopes (two pairs of regulation Navy B&L binoculars), judges' bench (an old feed trough inverted with a plank across) and the targets, scores of them . . . and real NRA jobs . . . are mounted and ready in stacks. There is a long wooden frame beside the judges' exalted rendezvous to hold the entrants' fowling pieces . . . a saw-horse-supported table for the handguns.

The rifle frame and the pistol table are focal points of rapt attention at these "parties." They are referred to by many colloquial sobriquets: "The Blockhouse," "The Armory,"



Spectating, atop the high rail of the Rolling-O corral. "The Lady That's Known as Lou" . . . with my pet Model 70 Hornet

and "The Supreme Court." A religiously observed "eleventh commandment" of the West is: Never Lay A Finger to 'Nother Man's Gun 'Thout Him Grantin' P'mission! But there is no rule which says you can't crawl under the table or stand on your head to get a better look at some other chap's firearm if it happens to pique your curiosity. However, if the owner picks up his own piece, hands it to you and says: "Here y'are, pardner, look down 'er . . . topside and inside!" then you have carte blanche to practically dissemble the mechanism on the spot. It is a rare desert or canyon man who is not boundlessly happy to show you his gun . . . and everything about it. He has surging pride in it whether it's a spanking new Remington 720 .30-'06, or a forty-year-old converted '03 Springfield.

"The Supreme Court" bench, a few minutes before festivities commence, is loaded down with a veritable museum collection of firing pieces. There are no restrictions on what a man shoots with in a match of this kind. So, the table is racked with all makes, all lengths, weights, and all calibers. I'll admit tho' the dominating weapon is the lever-action type . . . in .25-20, .25-35, .30-30, and .32 Special. Some are factory new . . . and garbed . . . after a quarter of a century; others have had harder lives, have been home stocked, rechambered, rebarreled. There is always a sizable delegation of .22's in various makes and models, and no "Blockhouse" is complete without its contingent of the ever-increasingly popular .270. Krags, Mausers, and Springfield Sporters show up in minority factions. Only two foreign-made rifles did I come across in my travels . . . which speaks well for the American rifleman's faith in American gunmakers' products. And out here, a man learns guns by using them—every day!

There are some few "customs of the country" which are inviolable. All arms are submitted to the judges . . . *unloaded!* There are always four classes of competition . . . no more, no less. Rifle for Men, Rifle for Women . . . the same duo for handguns. The entry fee for each class is one dollar—folding type or clinking! Entrants take their practice rounds and their competitive rounds in the order in which they enrolled . . . and . . . WINNER TAKES ALL!!

Now, getting into the personnel department is a most interesting side of these matches. The Rolling-O's Homecoming Shoot had a participating list which just couldn't happen any place but in America . . . and probably no place in America but in the Southwest! Several ranch owners, two oil well operators, eighteen or twenty cowhands and wranglers, three ranch cooks, four or five "drifters" from God-knows-where, a commander and a lieutenant commander on terminal leave, a saddle maker and his helper, a Mexican sheepherder, two state irrigation-ditch workers, a county highway engineer, a game warden and his pretty wife, a recently discharged turret-gunner sergeant from the Fifteenth Air Force, half a dozen dudes from nearby guest ranches, a politician, a pair of bartenders, a flabby Hollywood lesser-light director and his shapely starlet-protege, a meat-packer's agent from Topeka, and your faithful reporter, aided and abetted by his guardian . . . the Lady known as Lou.

It would be very gratifying to say truthfully that I won hands down . . . but Lou will read this, poor patient gal, as will perhaps a dozen of my fellow competitors in that meet, so I'll confess that I ran third . . . or rather, brag that I ran third! I've never shot four better ones before or since in my plinking career . . . all of them deep in the black and could have been smothered by a quarter—the fifth one was a "normal" for me, but still on the paper! The AAF gunner took first honors—and the dough.

I'd rather not go into the details of the pistol tourney. Anyway, they were short on pistol targets and I thought it was a generous gesture to leave one unmarked for the next shooter.

When the echo of the last shot had ebbed dimly into the farthest hill, and not until then, the corks started blooping from the big Bellamy jugs. Steaks began to sizzle atop the stone stoves. Bubbling crocks of molasses-and-pork-seasoned beans appeared, huge pitchers of cold milk, and half-gallon pots of coffee were toted from the main cookhouse. Cornbread, sweating butter from every pore, and crunchy cinnamon rolls fought for parking space on the hastily erected tables.

The alpaca-lined leather jacket which had looked so silly rolled up and tied behind the saddle in the heat of the day, began to feel mighty comfy as the thermometer's mercury kept pace with the lowering sun. But it was heart-warming—and tummy-warming—to sit there rubbing elbows, swapping yarns, and spilling scalding coffee with a bunch of regular guys an' gals you'd probably never see again . . . and never forget that you'd known!

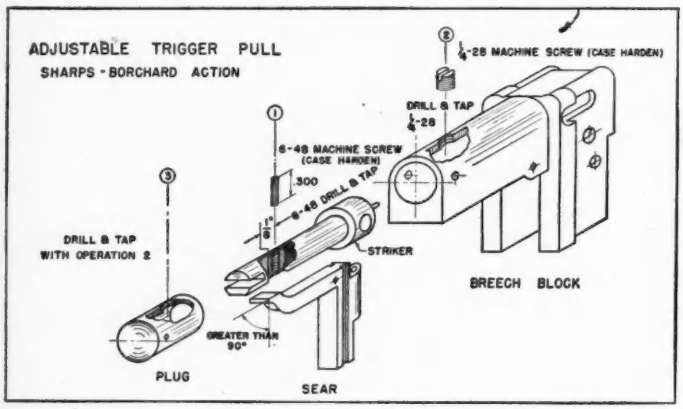
Oh! About Lou? . . . you wanted to know how she made out? . . . Well, maybe you've heard what a model husband I am . . . but I have been for a long time . . . it's not just because she copped top honors in that day's "Ladies' Pistol" with her little H&R, and then borrowed my Hornet to snag "Rifle for Dames" also! ♦ ♦ ♦

BORCHARDT TRIGGER PULL

By AL MARCIANTE

DOUBTLESS MANY OWNERS of Sharps Borchardt rifles would like to improve the trigger pull on their proud possession. Well, why not? The construction of this action lends itself readily to an improved trigger pull and also allows a hopeful experimenter with some mechanical ability to make the pull adjustable . . . all in one operation.

In adjusting the trigger pull on any firearm, bear in mind the safety factor—for, breathes there a rifleman who has not experienced that butterfly movement in the pit of the stomach caused by having a shot delivered prematurely after he lightened a trigger pull maybe just a little bit too much? Or, possibly he prevailed upon his gunsmith to "lighten 'er up," in which case the owner has a legitimate excuse to cuss the broken-down, dispirited, unshaven gunsmith.



It is possible to obtain a good, adjustable trigger pull on the Sharps Borchardt if these directions are followed carefully:

Remove the fore-end from the barrel, exposing the lever spring and the screw that retains it. Remove this spring and spring screw. Now, pull down the lever to cock the action. Turn the action so that the left side of the frame is up facing you, and notice at the forward part of the frame two screws close together. The larger of these is really a pin on which the lever pivots. The screw slot is added to allow the pin to be turned so that the other screw will lock it in position. This lever pin can be removed by turning the smaller screw about a quarter turn counterclockwise. The lever pin can now be pushed up from the other side of the frame and removed without trouble.

Now, grasp the lever and pull it out from the bottom of the action. This will draw down the breechblock far enough to expose the screw that holds the lever to the breechblock through the link that connects these two pieces. This screw is removed through the left side of the breechblock lug, wing, or whatever you wish to call it. After removing this screw, push up on the breechblock, after first making certain that the extractor is pushed back to the position it normally takes when the action is closed. It will be easier on the fingers and temper if a piece of brass rod or hard fiber rod is placed against the bottom of the breechblock and tapped lightly to remove the block. The Sharps action is literally full of sharp edges which can dampen one's desire for a light trigger pull. I know.

With the breechblock picked up from the floor, drive out the sear pin. Be careful when you get this pin all the way out and are ready to remove the pin punch because there is a small plunger, backed up by a little coil spring, that has a habit of going out of the sear in any direction of the compass.

Drive out the pin that retains the round plug in the rear of the breechblock. This plug is under pressure of the striker spring and it, too, will go out of the breechblock with quite some speed—never winding up where you think it will. Now, remove the striker spring.

Drive out from either right or left the large pin that passes through the striker head. This pin rides on cocking plates that are fastened on the inside of the frame. These plates cause the pin to move in a rearward direction until the sear notch has made engagement with the sear proper. The striker can now be removed from the rear of the breechblock.

Careful inspection of the sear notch on the striker will probably disclose the edge of the notch to be worn to some extent. With a fine stone, square up this notch so that the letoff edge is sharp and square across. This can be done by gripping the striker in a small vise that has a good pair of jaws on it. Grip it so that the bottom of the notch is flush with the top of the vise jaws, and stone carefully. Now, polish this edge with fine crocus cloth until it is very smooth. Lay this aside for a moment and look over the sear. This will need some attention, but will be much easier to work on than the sear notch. Stone the end of the sear so it, too, is good and sharp and square. Stone this sear end so that it will have a "digging-in" action, but do not overdo this angle. Polish this end also.

Now, take up the striker again and center punch a mark about one-eighth inch forward of the engaging notch to locate the position of a 6-48 sear-adjusting screw. This screw will be in the undercut that forms the sear notch, and allows the sear nose to enter to make engagement. A high-speed drill will readily cut through any of these strikers that I have run across. I used a No. 31 drill but any small-sized screw will be permissible. So, make this hole accordingly. Tap from the top-side, but do not allow the tap to come all the way through, as a tight fit on this screw is what we are after here.

When you have the striker tapped, insert it in the breechblock and replace the cocking pin through the striker head. Now, replace the little plunger in the sear, along with the spring that puts pressure on it, and replace it in its proper position on the breechblock.

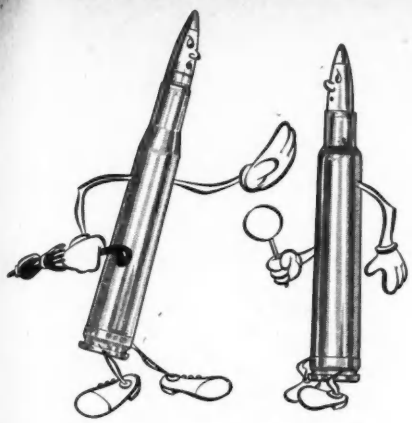
Push back on the striker until the sear enters the notch on the striker and, with the fingers, hold the striker forward so that the engagement is tight. Carefully measure the distance from the rear of the striker to the rear of the breechblock and make a note of this.

Disassemble the striker and sear again and remove these parts. Measures from the center of the hole (*Continued on page* 25)

WILDCATS without TEARS

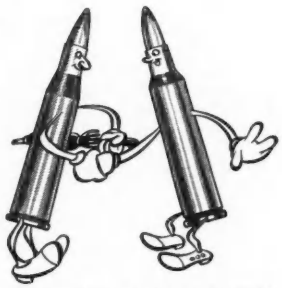
By WILLIAM CORSON

SOME COMMON-SENSE IDEAS ABOUT CUSTOM CALIBERS, AND A CLASSIFICATION OF OUR POPULAR WILDCATS



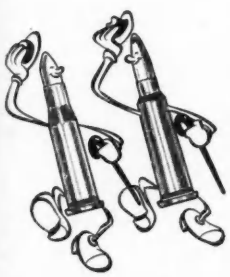
Typical of "younger generation" is this Improved .300 by Weatherby. Factory .300 Magnum is on left.

SO YOU'VE DECIDED TO HAND OUT some good hard-earned money for a shiny new wildcat rifle, have you? You're going to whip up some quick, cheap loads on the garage workbench, and then go out and shoot one-hole groups and amaze the boys at the way you can knock off a crow's head at 195 yards, huh? Well, more power to you, but you had better do some thinking first. You can do this wildcatting the easy way, or you can raise a bitter sweat before you get the results you are after. It depends on a lot of things.



Lovell version of .219 (right) holds more powder than factory cases.

No gun ever made is *fully* satisfactory for both seagulls and sealions, or dromedaries and dormice. Naturally, in picking your wildcat, you're going to consider carefully what muzzle velocity and caliber you want, according to what you are going to shoot. Get the gun that will fit closest to the bulk of your shooting—that will give you the best results on the sport that yields most of your shooting pleasure, month in and month out. Forget this compromise gun business, unless all your shooting needs lie within a comparatively narrow range. No compromise gadget will ever perform a given job as satisfactorily as will a specialist gadget for that job alone. And it's not hard to get a compromise that will leave you very unhappy on both ends of its job. I've done it, several times.



Factory .218 Bee (left) can be fired in same chamber as Mashburn "Improved" Bee.

Next, give some serious thought to the derivation of the cartridge case for your wildcat. This is very important. There are three major classes of wildcat, from the ammunition standpoint. Choice among these is the main point of this sermon because even if you have selected the right caliber, the right action, and the best of gunmakers, your ammunition supply can strongly affect your shooting pleasure. Ammo supply is important!

The first, and by all odds best, wildcat is the "improvement" on standard factory calibers, providing you can satisfy your needs within this bracket. The "improvement" usually consists of enlarging the chamber by removing much of the taper of the case body, so the sides are more nearly parallel, and of increasing the sharpness of the shoulder angle of the case; in other words, making the included angle more acute. All essential dimensions, such as over-all length, cartridge base diameter, and head-spacing length, are left unchanged, so that the standard factory ammunition can be purchased over the counter and fired in the gun without any alteration or tinkering.

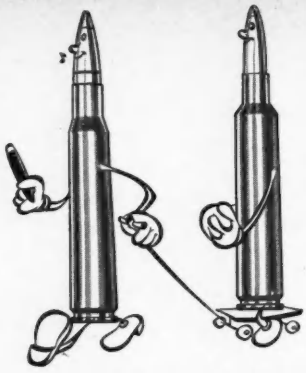
When the factory load is fired in the "improved" chamber, the case is expanded or blown out to fit the new contour. Without any further to-do, you then have perfectly formed wildcat brass, holding more powder than the original, and capable of being loaded for considerably better ballistic performance than the original.

The .257 Roberts (left), once a wildcat itself, and Ackley .257 improvement.

With negligible exceptions, factory loads fired in the "improved" chambers will not give quite the accuracy or flatness of trajectory that they will in a standard, unmodified chamber, let alone the performance the expanded cases can be loaded to in the wildcat chamber. One widely known gunsmith tells me he thinks the factory loads will give approximately 100 feet per second less than normal velocity when fired in .219 Zippers or .257 Roberts having "improved"

WILLIAM H. CORSON *admits that his one incurable ambition is to try every wildcat cartridge as soon as it appears. To date, he has managed to experiment with most of them, but reports a losing battle as more and more gunsmiths market their own special creations. Corson is now in California, where he is spending his time testing a brand new Ackley .25-'06 wildcat.*

chambers. On the unexplained side, factory .270 Winchester ammunition seems to give higher velocities in "improved" chambers than it does in standard factory chambers. At least one chronograph test has tended to confirm this odd fact. It's not infrequent to hear of a rifle giving even finer accuracy while expanding factory cases to fit an "improved" chamber than it ever subsequently gives with the properly expanded cases. Anyway, even a slight loss in velocity or accuracy is still one hell of a lot better than no ammunition at all, comes the pinch when you run out of handloads!



The .30-'06 (left) is parent of many wildcats. This one is Ackley .25-'06.

It is not necessary to buy factory loads for firing and expansion to the "improved" size of your wildcat chamber. You can beg or buy empty brass from someone who has a standard gun, or you can buy new empty cases from the factory. Load with any old tag ends of powder and the cheapest bullets you can find, and expand your cases by plinking at bottles, close-range squirrels, or into the ground, if you're in a hurry for your improved loads. If you have time and inclination to tinker, maybe you can cook up an accurate and useful load and get some nice results on game while you're expanding cases.

At present, there is a very definite trend toward this class of wildcat; most of the prominent gunsmiths of the country feature one or more specimens, and some of them have reamers for the entire line of modern cartridges. From the standpoint of publicity at least, the grandpappy of the whole series was the fine little K-Hornet, which is still an excellent cartridge within its class. Mashburn became associated with the "Mashburn Bee," an improvement on the Winchester .218 Bee which puts it right up in the 2R-Lovell class of ballistics. It will perhaps ultimately outmode the 2R because it offers equal ballistics in a case superior in strength of brass, easy availability, reportedly easier extraction, and—above all—ability to use factory loads in a pinch.

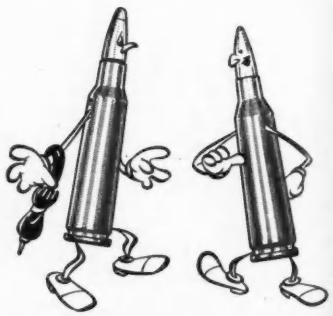
Big things are expected of the new .250 Ackley Magnum (right), shown with .300 from which it was derived.

Next up the list is the Improved .219 Zipper, a whale of a fine caliber. If it were not a rimmed cartridge, and hence better suited to single-shot actions than to bolt actions, I think it would come close to outmoding the popular, bigger Varminter, called the .22-.250 except when Gebby makes it. My own Improved Zipper was made by Hervey Lovell, who features the caliber. His design conforms almost exactly to the Improved Zipper of P. O. Ackley, who developed his version as far back as 1939. There is also a K-Zipper, which is probably very close to the Lovell-Ackley brand. It is a mystery to me why the caliber has not met with even greater popularity because it is superbly accurate and amazingly powerful for a 38 grain case, four grains smaller than the Varminter. It will perform in the same ballistic class with a handloaded .220 Swift, and will make a factory Swift load look silly at 400 yards. The Zipper brass is very modern—stronger and safer than the .250-3000 brass used in the Varminter, by and large.

It would take too much time to cite the virtues of all the "improved" cases. They range on through the .22 High Power, .220 Swift, .250-3000, .257 Roberts, and right up to the .348 Winchester and .375 H&H Magnum. It seems to be generally conceded that the greatest jump over their factory prototypes is found in the Improved Zipper, .250-3000, .257 Roberts, and .300 Magnum. The least impressive improvement is found in the .30-'06 and .270 Winchester, though even a slight lift on the fast .270 makes it a whiz. The Improved .300 Magnum is a tremendously flat-shooting, hard-hitting cartridge, with a trajectory beyond 400 yards that cannot, I think, be challenged by any other caliber in this class. There are, as a matter of fact, very few wildcats of any type which surpass this big .300.

Next after the "improved" factory calibers in general desirability come those wildcats which use easily available brass with a minimum of resizing and shaping. A good example is the Varminter or .22-.250, which uses the .250-3000 case necked to .22 caliber by one simple insertion in a die, or the strong, modern .300 Savage case, necked first to something around .250 and then to .22 by a pair of dies. The body does not need shaping at all.

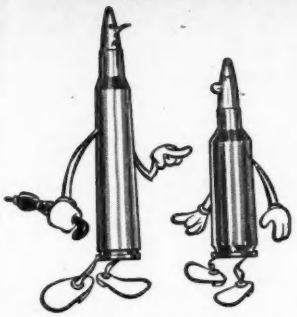
Of this same type, easily formed in one necking operation from factory brass, are the Lovell .22 High Power, the Niedner .22's, the Marciante "Bluestreak," the Ackley .25-'06, the Pfeifer .30-.348, and a whole string of .25's, 270's, and .280's made on the big, belted Magnum cases. Some of these offer spectacular ballistics, *but* you can't buy factory ammo to shoot in *any* of them. That Ackley .25-'06 is a new development and very interesting, because chronographing on the first few trial rifles seems to promise results close to those of the Magnum .25's with less erosion and powder squandering. Speeds are reported from near 4,300 feet per second with the 75 grain bullet to over 3,300 feet per second with the 117 grain bullet.



Old standby .250-3000 (left), and his popular youngster, the .22 "Varminter."

On those Magnum belted cases, by the way, beware of head space! The belts are made with a manufacturing tolerance of around .014 inch in width, and minimum brass in maximum chambers or vice versa can be very upsetting, one way or another. Standardize your brass!

Comes now the last and least desirable type of wildcat, viewed strictly from the ammunition angle. Mind you, some of this type are very fine performers indeed on targets or game, but you work for it! These are the wildcats which require one to four neck-sizing dies, plus shortening of the entire body,



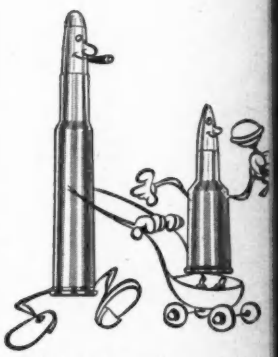
Barr-Nix .22-30 wildcat (right) and its parent, the standard .220 Swift.

plus cutting off what's left over, plus reaming excess brass from the newly constricted necks. This is labor. It requires considerable expenditure on tools if it is done right. Also, without the proper tools, you can work your fingers to the bone and end up with cases whose neck orifices are so off-center that accuracy is lost, and you might as well throw all the good brass away and start over. Do you know how to anneal your brass? Learn to do that, too, before you start on some of these calibers. And if you get sore at nonconcentric necks and consequent inaccuracy, or at all the work, or if you're in a hurry for more cases in a pinch, or if you run out of ammo on the hunt . . . never, *never*, will you be able to just go out and buy a box of factory fodder.

This wildcat class includes such cases as the Donaldson .22-4500 and Rimmed Wasp, Lindahl "Chucker," Zoerb .22-Cleanup, Barr-Nix .220-30, Henlein .22-'06, Miller .22 Krag, McCrea Short .22-'06 (the Doering version), and even the Varminter if you want to make husky cases out of the '06 or .257. The newest experimental Ackley .228 Magnum and .250 Magnum, made from shortened '06 and .275 H&H brass respectively, seem to be fine performers but are similarly difficult to construct. The old Ackley .228 Magnum, McCrea .22-50, and Ashurst .22-'06 require a lot of work if made from '06 brass, but can be more easily developed from 7 mm. or .257 Roberts cases.

Two final cautions: Avoid like the plague all wildcats of bastard-sized bore and outmoded brass unless you have absolutely positive assurance that components will be readily available for the life of your gun. In some off-standard bores, even the bullet-making equipment is in the hands of one man. If he dies or goes out of business, you may find yourself without ammunition for an expensive gun, and may have to pay through the nose to get someone else to make up the unusual components at an exorbitant price.

Along this same line, it is seldom smart to buy a wildcat about which you know only that the pilot model looked awfully good. Wait until a fair number of curious jerks (like me) have bought the caliber and found out whether it is consistently accurate and not too erosive. I bought the second model of one interesting high-speed .22 and threw away the fifty-dollar barrel after firing 370 rounds. Burnt to hell. Pick yourself a wildcat with a record; some of the good ones are nearly as well tested and established as factory calibers. ♦ ♦ ♦



Off the deep end! The limit was reached with this .22 caliber offspring of the .30-40.

Borchardt Trigger Pull

(*Continued from page* 22)

in the striker to the end of the sear. Add the first measurement you took to this last one, and we have the distance we are going to drill the adjusting screw cover on the top of the breechblock. Lay out this measurement on the top of the block from the rear end, centered from the sides. Insert the plug in the rear of the breechblock and drive in the pin that retains it. This hole we are going to drill will serve a double purpose. It will assist the three-thirty-second-inch pin in holding the plug in, in case of a blowout. It may never happen, but it has been known to.

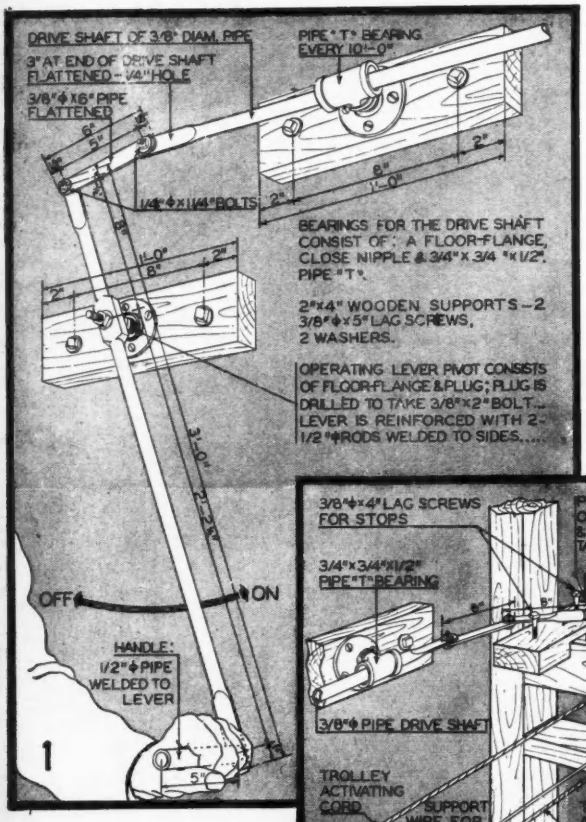
Drill through the breechblock and plug with any size drill suitable, up to a No. 7. This latter-sized drill being suitable for a one-fourth inch by twenty-eight screw. Tap this hole right through the breechblock and on through the plug. Make or obtain screws suitable for these holes and caseharden them if they are soft. This might help eliminate those nasty-looking runover screw slots that seem to adorn most firearms that have come under the hand of the experimenter and gunsmith. Before you caseharden the small screw, turn or file one-sixteenth inch of the thread off one end—the end that bears against the sear. This will allow enough of the screw to protrude to make the necessary trigger pull adjustment. Remove the rear plug.

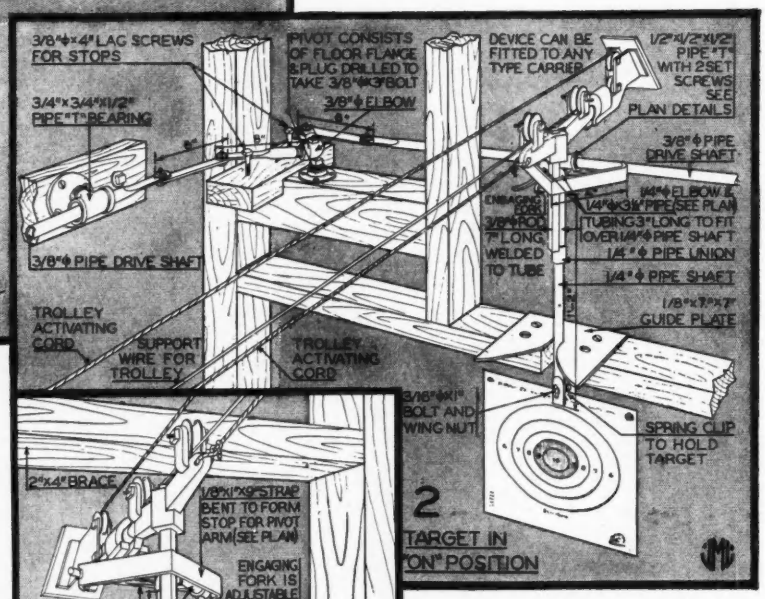
Assemble the parts in sequence stated and you should have no difficulty. Insert the striker and replace the cocking pin that goes through the striker head. Striker spring is next. Then the rear bushing and bushing retaining pin. Sear spring and plunger are inserted in the sear piece, and the whole replaced in position on the breechblock.

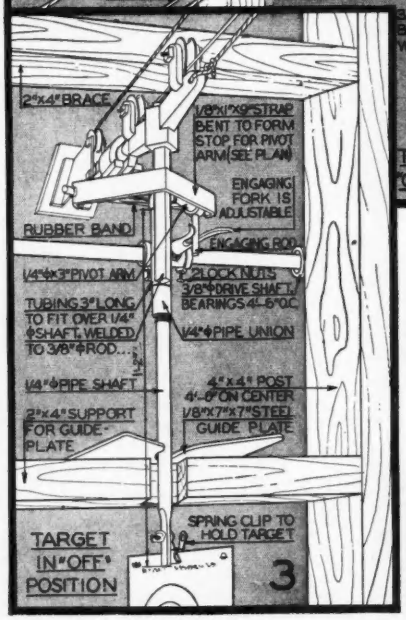
Now, with the extractor in position, place the breechblock in the top of the frame and, making certain that the link has not swung forward and hung up on the receiver ring, push the breechblock down into the frame. It will come to a decided stop when the cocking pin engages the cocking plates. So, using the butt end of a hammer handle, tap the breechblock lightly until it enters freely. Push it on through the frame, making sure the sliding plate that engages the sear lines up perfectly with the end of the sear that is coming through the frame. If it does not line up perfectly, pull back on the safety to release the trigger, and pull trigger back gently until the plate has slid into its proper position.

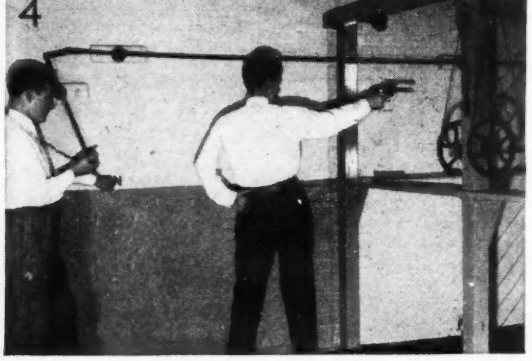
Replace the lever and push up on it until the breechblock slides up, or you can merely pivot the lever until the lever pin can be inserted through the frame. Lock this pin into position with the locking screw. Replace the lever spring and screw. You are now ready to view the fruits of your labor and worry. Cock the action. The adjusting screw in the striker should line up perfectly with the hole in the top of the breechblock. Try the trigger pull. Use a dummy case if you have one. If the weight of pull is too heavy, reach down through the top of the breechblock with a good fitting screw driver and turn the screw in a clockwise direction. Reverse, if too light. It will be well to hold the lever while you are making this adjustment because the striker will go forward and scare you, and lock the screw driver if the adjustment just happens to be made too light. You should have a good adjustable trigger pull on your Borchardt action now. Insert the screw into the top of the breechblock and align the screw slot north and south of the block. It looks better. ♦ ♦ ♦

INDOOR PISTOL TARGETS


DRIVE SHAFT OF 3/8" DIAM. PIPE
3" AT END OF DRIVE SHAFT FLATTENED – 1/4" HOLE
3/8"ϕ X 6" PIPE FLATTENED
PIPE "T" BEARING EVERY 10'–0"
1/4"ϕ x 1 1/4" BOLTS
BEARINGS FOR THE DRIVE SHAFT CONSIST OF: A FLOOR-FLANGE, CLOSE NIPPLE & 3/4" x 3/4" x 1/2" PIPE "T".
2"x4" WOODEN SUPPORTS – 2
3/8"ϕ x 5" LAG SCREWS, 2 WASHERS.
OPERATING LEVER PIVOT CONSISTS OF FLOOR-FLANGE & PLUG; PLUG IS DRILLED TO TAKE 3/8" x 2" BOLT... LEVER IS REINFORCED WITH 2-1/2"ϕ RODS WELDED TO SIDES.....
OFF
ON
HANDLE: 1/2"ϕ PIPE WELDED TO LEVER
1


3/8"ϕ x 4" LAG SCREWS FOR STOPS
PIVOT CONSISTS OF FLOOR FLANGE & PLUG DRILLED TO TAKE 3/8" x 3" BOLT
DEVICE CAN BE FITTED TO ANY TYPE CARRIER
1/2" x 1/2" x 1/2" PIPE "T" WITH 2 SET SCREWS SEE PLAN DETAILS
3/4" x 3/4" x 1/2" PIPE "T" BEARING
3/8"ϕ ELBOW
3/8"ϕ PIPE DRIVE SHAFT
1/4"ϕ ELBOW & 1/4"ϕ x 3" PIPE SEE PLAN
ENGAGING FORK
3/8"ϕ ROD 7" LONG WELDED TO TUBE
TUBING 3" LONG TO FIT OVER 1/4"ϕ PIPE SHAFT
1/4"ϕ PIPE UNION
1/4"ϕ PIPE SHAFT
1/8" x 7" x 7" GUIDE PLATE
3/8"ϕ PIPE DRIVE SHAFT
TROLLEY ACTIVATING CORD
SUPPORT WIRE FOR TROLLEY
TROLLEY ACTIVATING CORD
3/16" x 1" BOLT AND WING NUT
SPRING CLIP TO HOLD TARGET
2
TARGET IN "ON" POSITION


2"x4" BRACE
1/8" x 1" x 9" STRAP BENT TO FORM STOP FOR PIVOT ARM (SEE PLAN)
ENGAGING FORK IS ADJUSTABLE
RUBBER BAND
ENGAGING ROD
1/4"ϕ x 3" PIVOT ARM
2 LOCK NUTS
3/8"ϕ DRIVE SHAFT, BEARINGS 4'–6" O.C.
TUBING 3" LONG TO FIT OVER 1/4"ϕ SHAFT, WELDED TO 3/8"ϕ ROD...
1/4"ϕ PIPE UNION
1/4"ϕ PIPE SHAFT
4" x 4" POST 4'–6" ON CENTER
2"x4" SUPPORT FOR GUIDE-PLATE
1/8" x 7" x 7" STEEL GUIDE PLATE
SPRING CLIP TO HOLD TARGET
TARGET IN "OFF" POSITION
3



1 Detail of operating lever and a typical bearing for drive shaft. Ball bearings would make targets turn more easily; these inexpensive T-joints work well, though, if greased.

2 Perspective view from above, showing drive shaft transmission, and pivoting target carrier engaged with drive shaft. Mechanism is shown with the target in "On" position.

3 Detailed perspective from below, showing action of operating arm as target is turned 90 degrees to "Off" position. Note that engaging fork is adjusted on the drive shaft.

4 NRA staffmen J. L. Murphy (left) and J. S. Rose, of Association technical staff, give the new pivoting targets a trial run. Since then, tournaments have proved value of the device.

AN OFTEN HEARD CRITICISM of indoor ranges is that it is almost impossible to control pistol shooters in timed and rapid fire during a tournament. Shooters have asked why some sort of device couldn't be rigged up with an indoor carrier so that the targets could be turned or faced as they are on outdoor pistol ranges.

After considering several different carrier schemes, the NRA has evolved the design shown. It is very simple, rugged and economical to build. The pilot model was installed several months ago on the eleven firing point NRA range in Washington, and has been used successfully in several tournaments.

The entire device is made up of standard pipe, pipe fittings, and steel plate. Nominal pipe sizes are given on the drawings. There is a minimum of welding. Material cost for the project was less than $25.00, or an average of about $2.00 per firing point. Construction is simple enough that club members with a little ingenuity can build it. (*Continued on page* 34)

A NEW IDEA FOR WINTER SHOOTING

—

MOVING TARGETS FOR YOUR INDOOR RANGE

Give Your Boy a Break

H. Armstrong Roberts

BY FRANCIS E. SELL . . . .

AN EXPERIENCED OUTDOORSMAN'S VIEWS ON THE PROPER RIFLE FOR A BOY'S FIRST BIG GAME TRIP . . . AND SOME IDEAS ON THE EQUIPMENT A HUSKY BOY CAN HANDLE

ODD, ISN'T IT, how an experienced hunter who has selected his big-game rifle with care, will pawn off just about anything on his boy! Old, discarded rifles are brought down from the attic, picked up in secondhand stores, or acquired in just about any manner except laying enough money on the line to get a good rifle for a lad's first big-game hunting trip.

Last autumn I took a father and son into a place which is a more or less secret hunting ground for a few of us who know the country. It is rough, broken ground, logged years ago, and now grown up to brush and timber, making it an ideal hide-out for some thumping big bucks.

The father was carrying a modified Krag, .30-40, a nice slick job for brush hunting with the 220 grain soft point. The father was amply armed, but the boy might as well have been carrying a slingshot.

His rifle was a Model 92 Winchester, caliber .44! It was a wreck. Examination of an empty shell, which he carried in his pocket, showed that the old smoke-pole had some head space, but not enough to make it dangerous—the only virtue it possessed. The barrel had been cut off about six inches, obviously in an effort to improve the accuracy by doing away with a bell muzzle.

I resolved, if it was at all possible, to give that boy the breaks on his first hunt. We spread out to still hunt the rough country, and the lad got the favored center position, where, if either his father or I jumped a buck, he would likely get a shot. That was the way it happened.

I had scarcely gone a hundred yards when I heard the lad shoot. I paused to wait developments. Then just as I was about to move on, I heard another shot, an interval, followed by three more, all evenly spaced. I turned to my right, following a spur down toward the shooting, going cautiously . . . just in case. Coming out into the opening, I saw the boy on a steep hillside. He was watching a clump of salmonberry brush about a quarter of an acre in size.

"There is a deer in there." He pointed.

"Can you see him?"

"Yes."

"Why don't you shoot?" I asked.

"Doesn't seem to do much good. Already shot four shots without even making him move."

From where I stood, I could command all sides of the brush patch. I told the lad to move up closer. I wanted him to get the shot above all, and at a range where his ancient rifle had a chance of scoring. He came within fifty yards of where the deer was supposed to be. I was skeptical. Sometimes a buck will lie close, but this seemed fantastic.

I had moved down the ridge to within fifty yards of where the deer was supposed to be. The wind was directly from me to the deer. The lad had come up toward the clump of brush until less than a hundred yards separated us.

"I think I can hit him from here," he said.

I dropped behind a large fir stump where I would be safe from any wild shots. "Try him," I said.

The boy fired eight shots at the deer, taking careful rest over the windfall without so much as making the deer move. From my place of concealment, I could watch every move the young hunter made. He didn't have a case of buck fever. He was getting off each shot carefully.

All the shooting finally brought his father to the scene. He moved up to where the boy stood beside the log. By this time I was sure there was no deer in the island of brush, and that the lad was shooting at a stump or brown clump of weeds. But the father looked where the lad pointed, laid his rifle across the log and fired. There was a tremendous thrashing in the brush, and all was still.

I moved down through the brush, cautiously, thinking that maybe the deer was only wounded, but when I came to it, I found it quite dead, a beautiful four pointer (western count), shot neatly through the neck—a deer any hunter would be proud to bag.

While we were carrying the deer out through the rough country, I could see that the situation rankled in the mind of the lad. If he had had a rifle which was accurate. . . . If he got another chance like that. . . . Those were the things which he would be remembering instead of a clean kill, a wonderful rack of antlers taken on his first big-game trip.

I was curious about the old .44. I wondered just how bad

it was, to miss a deer at fifty yards when the game was standing and there was an opportunity to shoot with a rest. When we were almost back to the car, well out of the hunting territory so we would not disturb other hunters or game, I decided to target his rifle.

Shooting with a rest at fifty yards at a mark on a large maple tree, the first shot was three feet high. The second shot missed the five-foot tree entirely, while the third kicked up the dust in front of the tree. Nice shooting for a deer rifle!

I handed my own Model 64 .25-35 to the lad. He fired a four-shot group which you could have covered with a dollar.

Such shooting, I knew, came from intense practice with his .22 rifle. He had prepared himself for that autumn big-game hunt. And he had met just about every requirement. He was quiet in the brush, careful with his rifle, and, as the small group showed, he was an accurate game shot. About all he needed was a rifle. Not just any old rifle, but a good accurate gun, preferably one which he had helped to select.

In selecting a rifle for a boy, there are several things which should be avoided. First of these is the fetish about lightweight rifles. A man will choose a rifle with sufficient weight to compensate for the recoil of the heavier calibers. But if he is picking out a rifle for a boy he will get a lightweight affair on the theory that the boy is not capable of carrying a standard weight rifle all day afield. The only thing wrong with this theory is that it suffers from the decided handicap of being inaccurate. The average boy around fourteen to sixteen years old is in much better physical condition than his office-haunting dad. He plays basketball, sand-lot baseball, does a lot of swimming, and keeps in shape. While dad may consider himself something of an old he coon, in reality he is usually carrying plenty of lard on his frame when he hits the trail.

Any boy of normal build is amply capable of handling a standard-weight rifle. He will carry an eight- or nine-pound rifle all day, and come in at night fresher than his dad. Then too, when you lighten a .30-'06 or similar rifle to six and a half or seven pounds, cutting off the barrel to twenty inches, the recoil from such a combination, along with muzzle blast, is inclined to make a flincher out of the most seasoned rifle shot.

The .250-3,000 Savage in the Model 99-R is a fair choice for a deer rifle, especially when used with the 100 grain bullet. A better choice is the .300 Savage in the same model. The recoil is slightly more with the .300, but is not at all uncomfortable. Any normal boy will not find it excessive. This caliber has much more knockdown, anchoring a deer better when the bullets strike around the fringe of the vital area on game. Another good choice for a medium-range deer rifle is the old familiar .30-30 and .32 Special in the Model 64 Winchester. The .25-35 should be avoided as it is entirely too light unless the hunter is a skilled woodsman and an accurate game shot. A good rule, within limits, is to match maximum power with minimum experience. As a hunter becomes more skilled he can safely pass up the Magnums for less powerful rifles, even going below the accepted standard for the game which he intends to hunt, and still kill cleanly. But with an inexperienced hunter the reverse is true.

H. Armstrong Roberts

A better choice, if the lad wants a bolt action, is the .257 Roberts, .270 Winchester, or the 7 mm. The three calibers, either in the Model 70 Winchester or the Model 720 Remington, are almost ideal. For brush hunting, the 117 grain bullet in the .257 Roberts is the best load. In the .270 Winchester the 150 grain bullet is a good choice. This load, incidentally, has a recoil of only 14.5 pounds, much less than the .30-'06. The best brush load for the 7 mm. is the 175 grain bullet, having about the same amount of recoil as the .270, 150 grain loading.

A boy, if he is taught the proper technique of rifle shooting, trigger squeeze and proper holding, is not apt to be intimidated by the recoil of any standard make of big-game rifle in the calibers and loadings mentioned. With the possible exception of the .30-'06 and .348, all the rifles considered standard for deer are well within his ability to shoot comfortably.

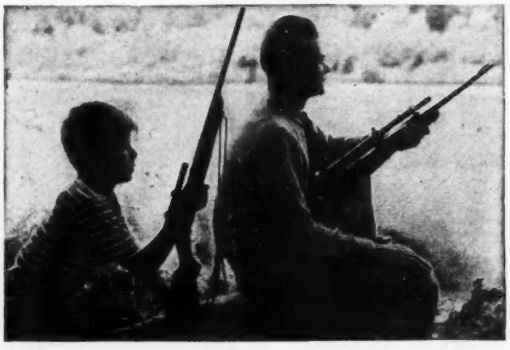
After all, the main thing he needs is a break. There may be a lot of sentiment in Grand-pappy's old pill slinger, but that is no reason to wish it off on Junior when he is big enough to go deer hunting. If you have such affection for the old rifle, use it yourself. The boy needs something better.

Ten chances to one he has soaked up a lot of information from gun catalogues or from reading the sporting magazines, and has some very definite ideas about what he wants. Those ideas should be taken into consideration.

There are intangible virtues added to a rifle which a young hunter has picked out for himself, something which not only pays off in the field, but afterwards as well. For, after all, a rifle is more than an instrument of precision. There is a relationship. It is much more satisfying if the beginning hunter has a choice in its establishment. Almost, you can say, a rifle represents a way of life. These things are important to remember in selecting a rifle for your son.

Don't break his heart on his first big-game hunting trip by giving him a piece of worthless junk. ◆ ◆ ◆

Bert Popowski



Some Notes on
Home Workshop BLUING

By AL BARR

THE ADVANTAGES OF A BROWN or blue finish for firearms were realized several centuries ago. The primary objectives of bluing gun parts are to get rid of reflections from polished surfaces, and to control rust. To the early settler, the difference between a bright and a blued firearm undoubtedly was a life-or-death proposition. Even the position of a soldier in battle could be revealed to the enemy by reflected light from the brightly finished weapon he carried. Wild animals who live by their wits can spot that reflection far beyond the average hunting range. The colored surface also provides at least partial protection against rust.

One of the early means of bluing was the heat or temper blue, still used by some of the arms manufacturers but impractical for the home gunsmith. Aside from this process, there are two main variants of the browning or bluing process. Either variant is achieved by applying a rust-promoting combination of chemicals. When left alone, the rust formed by them consists mainly of ferrous hydroxide, which gradually changes to ferric oxide. This procedure results in a brown finish when the surface rust is removed. When subjected to boiling water between applications, the brown oxide is converted to a deeper blue or blue-black finish.

The cold-rusting process at room temperature is the slowest of all, but will give a good deep and durable finish. Accelerated rusting in heated humidity cabinets, requiring special equipment, is impractical for the average small shop.

A speedier method is the so-called express process. This is generally referred to as the "Hot Water" method. The prepared bluing chemicals are applied after degreasing and boiling the polished parts in clean water. This routine procedure is carried on for as many applications as are necessary to get a uniform blued finish.

My first bluing job was done, on a pet Sharps-Borchardt, after reading everything available on the subject. The best practical method recommended at the time was the so-called hot bluing process. First of all, it was necessary to polish highly all parts to be blued—the higher the polish the better the finished job. Right here one thing should be stressed: After considerable experience with many different solutions, you'll find that recommendations for high polish should never be overlooked. Experience, the hard way, will convince anyone that a fine polish beforehand is indispensable, and the finished job is only as good as the preliminary polishing.

For a fair example on polishing and its importance for a high luster finish instead of a rather dull black, at least one hour was spent on a Krag trigger guard. Every available grade of polishing compound on four different cloth wheels and one wool felt wheel left such a high polish that after bluing that guard has not rusted in one and one-half years. Never has one drop of oil been applied. It has been handled probably hundreds of times. It is not the bluing alone that prevents rust but the polishing, which removes surface roughness to the extent that the metal has no place for the rust to take hold.

For the hot-water method, specific instructions are, first: Never to touch the cleaned steel with bare hands after polishing and complete degreasing. Initially, all polished parts must be cleaned with gasoline or a degreaser, and then boiled in a tank containing one heaping teaspoonful of lye to each gallon of water. Do this only after the inside of the barrel is greased, and hardwood plugs have been fitted to both ends to keep water and solution out. Then, when clean, boil again in clear water and rinse in warm water. The parts are now ready for bluing. And remember: Everything depends on that preliminary preparation.

The bluing solution recommended by the late Clyde Baker, and probably one of the best of this type, was his Number 1, consisting of one-quarter ounce sodium nitrate, one-quarter ounce potassium nitrate, one-half ounce bichloride of mercury, one-half ounce potassium chlorate, ten ounces of distilled water, and one-half ounce spirit of nitre. Mixed together, the solution is placed in a glass jar and suspended by a wire in one corner of the main tank used to finish the job.

Fill a long tank or wash boiler with water and boil the parts until they are too hot to touch. Handle the parts by wires, so you can suspend them in the water without touching them. Lift the parts out when hot enough and apply the solution in long continuous strokes, completely covering the surface. Boil again for a few minutes, and then lift out and scour with fine steel wool, just enough to remove the rust coat that has been formed by the previous application of bluing preparation. Boil again and repeat for at least three to five applications. This sounds easy, but it is a lot of work.

Not long after this job was done, one of those enthusiastic amateur gunsmiths who have had a chance to get many ideas from various sources, suggested what seemed to me a very practical bluing process. He also indicated that the gunsmith who used it considered it a much-guarded secret. I could use it but was almost sworn to secrecy.

I had the necessary equipment made up and soon had the

solution working. One requirement was a black iron tank of about 16 gauge metal, with folded or electric-welded seams, as the solution used would eventually attack nonferrous metal joints such as solder or brazing. Many evenings were spent learning some of the peculiarities of this bluing method, not that it was too difficult, but because I was so much impressed with its possibilities after becoming thoroughly familiar with it. At that time no one had published much information on its use. I began to wonder why, other than the tip that some gunsmiths would not talk about their bluing methods.

After considerable use and enthusiasm, I became bolder and began some research into its history and the dope available in published form, for use as an argument, if necessary. There was an idea forming. If it was so simple, why keep it a secret? I found that at least two articles had been published, but with only incidental mention, and that it was also referred to in two books giving bluing formulas, so why should its use not be mentioned? And so it was, almost with fear of the gunsmith's attitude. We no longer need have this fear as dozens of similar preparations are sold commercially now. In fact, the instructions for the use of one of these solutions will follow almost exactly those recommended for another of the so-called immersion bluing processes. I have tried a number of them.

That first experience was with a very simple solution, consisting by volume of two parts water, two parts ordinary lye, and one part commercial sodium nitrate (soda niter used as fertilizer). It was also called "Chile saltpeter" where my first supply was purchased at almost unbelievably low cost. This solution should boil at 280 to 285 degrees Fahrenheit. It is advisable to preclean polished parts with gasoline by boiling in a lye solution, although I have blued dozens of guns merely by carrying them from the polishing wheel to the bluing tank, without degreasing. It can be a risky procedure, though, if too much polishing compound is left on the surface.

The solution boils at a higher temperature as the water evaporates. That is how the temperature is controlled, and not by control of the flame under the tank. The flame should be high and the solution kept at a fast bubbling boil. Parts in a new solution should be blued well when temperature is up to 310 degrees. If not, add water carefully and keep the temperature to 300 or 310 degrees for ten to fifteen minutes more, when the job should be done. A warning about adding water: It must be done very carefully, a small amount at a time in one corner of the tank. The solution you are working with is a very caustic preparation boiling at quite a high temperature. It will eat leather, wool, and linoleum.

The major parts are suspended with wires for convenient handling; small pieces can be placed in a wire container. When the bluing is complete, parts should be removed and rinsed immediately in running hot or cold water. A second tank containing boiling hot water will prove a decided advantage in removing the remaining solution from corners and screw holes. The gun should have been completely disassembled, as it should be for any type of bluing. I have done many jobs using only the hot and cold water spigots for cleaning, but there is a chance that not all the solution will be cleared away from hard-to-get-to parts. Even though all solution is not removed from these parts, being an alkaline type, no after rust will occur, providing all moisture is removed and the parts are well oiled.

Another thing: Don't try to plug the barrel when using this method. Leave it open and blue the inside too. This sounds radical, but many a barrel has been improved in that less fouling results after it has been blued inside.

To check the temperature control of the solution an inexpensive deep-fat thermometer can be used. This works well, but may break occasionally when adding more water to lower the temperature. However, the cost is only a quarter, and the instrument will register up to about 400 degrees Fahrenheit.

My own tank is five inches wide, eight inches deep, and forty inches long. Depth of solution is about three inches. To get sufficient heat, an air vent or air mixer was included in my homemade heating unit. Two opposing slots about an inch long were cut near the end of the pipe where the gas enters.

Over the pipe at these slots a close-fitting brass sleeve permits air control similar to that on a regular gas stove burner. For the gas inlet a three-eighths-inch copper tube was fitted through this capped end. The tube extended inside just to the air intake slots. The inner end of the tube was threaded inside for a close-fitting brass plug. This could also be sweated in. A small hole, about one-eighth inch, was then drilled in the plug to allow the pressure of the escaping gas to create a pulling or pressure effect when passing the air intake slots. This works very well when the sleeve is properly adjusted, and the unit is easily connected to a gas outlet, even the kitchen stove, with a rubber hose. My first hookup was an abandoned shower hose. Several other burners were made, using the kitchen stove burner as an example to copy. I have made up cone-shaped air intakes by soldering funnel-shaped sections out of tin to the end of the water or gas pipe, and then inserted the copper tubes, held in place by copper plates sweated to the end of the cones. This works well with metal adjustable discs to control air through the air intake slots in the copper plates. If this is not clear, look at the gas range and copy the system used.

That first job referred to was also the last by the hot bluing process. I have done hundreds of others since by the immersion method, and that is the one which will be used in the future. The original solution using lye, nitrate, and water lasted about two years before going bad, and at least 150 guns were blued in it. Occasionally an additional can or two of lye was added as a "rejuvenator," when bluing was too slow. I have blued many double-barreled, soldered shotguns without a single come back, but if they are left in too long the lye will attack the soldered joints, especially at the muzzle. I have tried jobs on expensive shotguns, too. Go easy on some of the foreign guns, though, which might have certain cast parts as these may disappear in the solution! That happened once, with the magazine follower of a Browning M35 pistol. At least one trigger and other parts have disappeared. Be sure that all parts are steel and not brass or other nonferrous metal.

This method of bluing will not do a good job unless all previous blue is removed. Old blue can be removed by polishing or the process speeded up by using 25 to 35 per cent hydrochloric acid. Afterwards, though, the surface will become etched or worse still, rust, unless all traces of the acid are removed immediately. Better not use the acid until everything is ready for the polishing and bluing job. ♦ ♦ ♦

This Matter of SIGHT RADIUS

By WALTER F. ROPER

SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, one of our better-known pistol shooters sent me a Match Target Woodsman, together with a most interesting letter in which he described some experiments on the effects of sight radius on accuracy. He concluded by saying that, while the sights on the gun sent me were crude, they gave the result he wanted—an increase of seven-eighths of an inch in the intersight distance. Then came the statement that started me thinking: "I find that this longer sight radius has increased my ten-shot, fifty-yard, slow-fire scores an average of four points."

His request was that I try the gun and see for myself how much the longer sight radius improved my shooting, then have a really good set of sights made to replace his handmade ones.

This was by no means the first time this matter of special sights to give a longer sight radius had come up. In fact, I had made a number of front sights for both Colt and S&W revolvers that increased the radius, to say nothing of the overhanging rear sights I have made for use on single-shot pistols. The result usually was a temporary improvement in the user's scores, and then a return to the previous average. With the overhanging rear sight, shooters always concluded that the greater difficulty of holding the sights in accurate alignment offset any gain due to the longer radius.

When the gun arrived, I proceeded to test the accuracy of sighting possible with it as compared with that of my own gun,

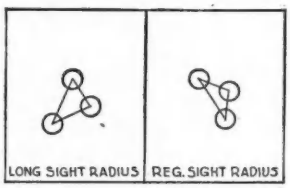


Figure 1: Sighting triangles made by the author with different sight radii.

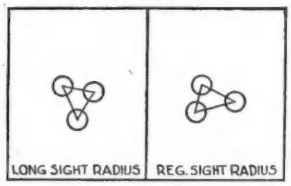


Figure 2: Similar results obtained by Roper's fellow-shooter, Ed Bridgman.

which was fitted with the same width sights but at the regulation distance. These tests were *not* made by shooting, for such a test brings in too many factors which affect the results. They were made rather by the "sighting triangle" method, which eliminates all errors due to holding, trigger pull, light, or personal feelings. This is, in my opinion, the only dependable way to test sights and I strongly urge pistol shooters to use it whenever testing of this kind is to be done. Figure 1 shows the results I obtained, and Figure 2 shows what my fellow tester Ed Bridgman did with the two guns.

Just how to word my reply to the owner of that Woodsman presented quite a problem. After all, he had said that the longer sight radius had improved his score four points, and that certainly was what he wanted. Also, a single test such as Bridgman and I had made is not sufficient to warrant a hard and fast conclusion. It was then that I determined to dig into the matter to see if some conclusions could be reached.

It is the easiest thing in the world to "prove" on paper that the longer the distance between the sights, the less a given error of sighting will affect the accuracy at the target. Most of the older books on shooting contain a chart something like Figure 3, which is certainly clear enough for anyone. In more recent books the figure evidently isn't considered necessary, and the statement that the longest possible sight radius is desirable is made without comment.

Several things were remembered as I began to think of the

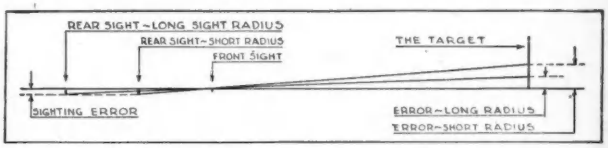


Figure 3: Charts like this have been offered for years as "proof" that a longer sight radius will give greater accuracy of aiming than a short one.

sight radius matter, the very first being the surprising results obtained by General Hatcher at Bisley, England, with an eight-inch barrel H&R USRA Model single-shot pistol. Whether the shorter barrel produced a gun more suited to the General's holding is somewhat beside the point, for, if the accuracy of sighting varies with the length of the distance between sights, he sacrificed a full 20 per cent from that possible with a ten-inch-barrel gun. However, his 200 x 200 score left nothing to be desired!

Following General Hatcher's shooting, over one hundred American pistolmen tried the short-barrel single shot, and my records show that of the sixty-five who reported the results obtained, the majority did better shooting than they did with a longer barrel. Machine rest tests showed that the seven- and eight-inch guns were not quite as accurate as those with ten-inch barrels. Either the shorter sight radius did not have any serious effect upon the shooting done, or the shorter guns permitted enough better holding to offset the loss due to the shorter sight radius.

Finally, I remembered a test reported in an article published in the August, 1940, issue of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN. The test referred to was made with an H&R pistol with an overhanging rear sight and a front sight so arranged that it could

WALTER F. ROPER *is well-known to the pistol game as a confirmed experimenter with handguns, a steady magazine contributor and, more recently, as the author of a book on handgun shooting. A mechanical engineer by profession, Roper's background of technical training has led him into a thorough investigation of handgun sights and grip design.*

be placed at any distance from seven to fourteen and three-eighths inches from the rear sight. The sighting triangles made by both Ed Bridgman and me with the sights at these two distances are reproduced from that article in Figure 4. It will be noted that the accuracy obtained with the long intersight distance is little if any better than that obtained with the sights at less than half this distance apart.

Just why I had never followed up a finding that was so hard to explain or understand, I cannot tell, but the arrival of that Match Target Woodsman brought things to a head. This article is a report on a considerable number of subsequent tests.

While ways and means of conducting the proposed tests were being considered, two first-class shooters from a nearby club

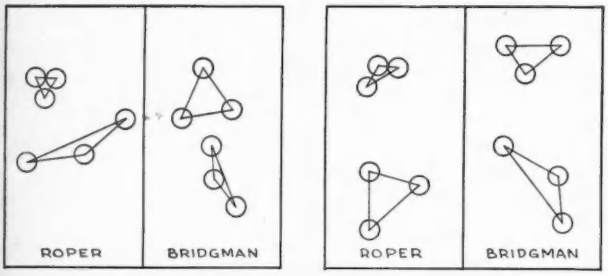


Figure 4: Originally published in *The American Rifleman*, August, 1940, these triangles by Roper and Bridgman back up results of similar, recent tests.

dropped in to see me, and when I told them what I had in mind, they offered to take part in the experiments. I gave each an H&R ten-inch pistol with the top rib slotted so that the front sight could be moved to different distances from the rear sight. These guns had been in my gun trunk ever since General Hatcher did his fine shooting, and were made with the idea of having maximum barrel accuracy, but variable intersight distance, so that the individual shooter could use whatever sight radius proved best for him.

The two shooters agreed to shoot two ten-shot targets each week, one of the targets to be fired with the sight at maximum distance from the rear sight, the other target with the front sight at just one half this distance from the rear sight. This shooting was done on the indoor range at twenty yards. To get an idea of performance at fifty yards, I sent my remaining pistol with movable front sight to a friend in a section of the country where outdoor shooting was possible.

I'm sure that every one of these shooters considered the tests a waste of time, and thought that I was more than a little "wacky." One remarked, "Why, anyone knows that accuracy of aiming increases as the sight radius is increased, so why waste time proving it?"

I haven't the slightest idea how many times I have listened to that sort of statement about things concerning guns, but I do know that repetition of a supposed "fact" never made a statement acceptable if tests had indicated that there was doubt about its truth. I don't recommend this "let's find out" attitude for anyone else, however, for it is far simpler to go along with the crowd and accept the folklore handed down by the great masters of the past. Also, it is a lot less expensive than finding out through complex tests.

My next move was to persuade Ed Bridgman to repeat the sighting triangle tests with the fourteen-and-three-eighths-inch sight radius pistol, and then fire ten targets with me, using both the long and short sight radii. Ed, too, considered it a waste of time, I guess, for he asked, "Didn't we go all through this some years ago when we were testing sights?" Finally, I arranged with a rifle shooter to fire a number of five-shot groups at fifty yards from a rest with a fine Winchester 52 which I had fixed up so that the front sight could be moved back on the barrel to reduce the sight radius as much as 50 per cent.

Patience is said to be one of the requirements for real testing but I'll admit that mine was nearly used up before the targets arrived from the three shooters. When they did, the results, together with those obtained by Ed and me, were most interesting, to say the least. The two shooters who fired at twenty-yards made groups with the five-inch sight radius which, if centered, would have averaged three points more than those shot with the nine-inch radius! Ed Bridgman and the shooter who fired at fifty yards averaged exactly the same with the long and short sight radius, while my own shooting was decidedly better with the short radius.

A repetition of the sighting triangle test of the fourteen-and-three-eighths- and seven-inch sight radius gun confirmed the results reported in THE RIFLEMAN in 1940, there being so little difference between the size of the triangles made with the short and long sight radius that it was not worth consideration.

Finally, the groups made with the rifle (five of them with each sight radius) did not show over one-eighth inch difference between long and short radii.

From these tests it is evident that, at least at fifty yards, and for the shooters making the tests, the sight radius was not of particular importance and an increase of an inch or two between sights will have no effect whatever on the accuracy of shooting. On the contrary, a shorter sight radius might actually give better scores, especially on a gun that will be used for timed and rapid fire as well as for slow-fire shooting.

Now, for a little theorizing. To begin with, there is nothing wrong with the diagram (Figure 3) used to prove that *a given error* of sighting will cause more error at the target when a

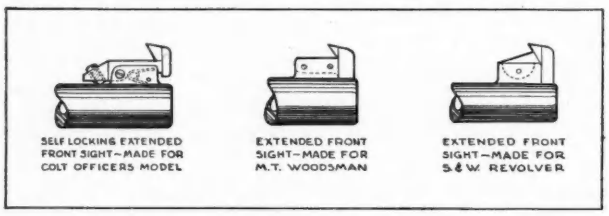

SELF LOCKING EXTENDED FRONT SIGHT—MADE FOR COLT OFFICERS MODEL
EXTENDED FRONT SIGHT—MADE FOR M.T. WOODSMAN
EXTENDED FRONT SIGHT—MADE FOR S.&W. REVOLVER

Figure 5: A thorough experimenter, Roper has attacked problem from several directions. These are sights designed to afford maximum sight radius.

short sight radius is used than is true with a longer radius. That being so, it must be evident that for some reason the shooters making the tests described do not make the same error of sighting when using the short sight radius as when the longer one is used. This might easily be so, as the nearer the sights are together the more nearly will both be in focus.

With these tests in mind, it would seem most important to determine what dimensions of front and rear sights permit the most accurate sighting with the intersight distance provided on our standard guns. Experiments to establish these dimensions are now under way. In the meantime, tests of this matter of sight radius would seem to be well worth the time of any serious competitive pistol shooter. ♦ ♦ ♦

THAT FOREIGN AMMO AGAIN!

By PHILIP B. SHARPE

SOME GOOD REASONS FOR NOT SHOOTING CAPTURED AMMUNITION IN THAT GERMAN PISTOL YOU BROUGHT HOME

AT THE MOMENT, there are two schools of thought in this country: "German military pistols are the finest in the world" and "enemy equipment is not so hot."

Join either side. Purchase all of the P-38 Walthers and Lugers you want. Pay any price you wish. But play safe—don't use them! The technical intelligence boys of the U. S. Army checked into the matter, and they found them to be dangerous, particularly if manufactured late in 1943, or in 1944, or in 1945. And most of them were made during those war years.

For a long time the firearms writers of this country are going to be swamped with letters about these guns—and the ammunition they take. Although you could bring in souvenir pistols, it was against regulations to return ammunition to this country. But the ammunition is here. Many of the boys will be getting it, and many a gun will blow up.

In an effort to get *American* facts on certain types of pistol ammunition, the writer ran a few tests recently at the Winchester laboratories. He supplied the ammunition. The figures quoted are fair and honest. They are facts, not publicity department releases.

The German 9 mm. cartridge is normally loaded with a 126-grain bullet. Its velocity is about 1000 feet per second in the short-barrel pistol. But there are variations. One of these is the "Patr. '08 m.E", or iron core bullet. This *should* be easily identified—since the specifications call for the bullet jacket to be *black*. But this writer has found many loads with normal copper-plated steel jackets and iron cores. Usually the carton or container identifies these—but loose rounds can be confusing.

This load is often called "semi-armor-piercing." Why, I'll never know. It just has a soft cold-rolled steel core, adopted by Germany to save precious lead. But the substitution reduced bullet weight and permitted much higher velocities.

In order to acquire a fair comparison, other 9 mm. ammunition was tested for velocity and pressure. First, consider American loadings. Millions of rounds of 9 mm. pistol cartridges were loaded during the war. U. S. Government specifications limited pressure to a maximum of 36,000 pounds, and the average loading was less.

The U. S. bullet weighs 124 grains. Velocity tests showed an instrumental velocity of 1,426 mean over a 50-foot range. Maximum recorded velocity of U. S. loads was 1,446 and minimum 1,398.

Since the same cartridge was loaded throughout the world, a few other figures are given here. First, some British loads from Hirwan—1943 ammunition for the Sten sub-machine gun. The bullets averaged 114.8 grains. Average pressure was 34,800 pounds. Maximum pressure was 37,600 and minimum recorded was 31,800. Velocity averaged 1,393 feet per second, with a maximum of 1,402 and a minimum of 1,385.

Then we tested some 1938 Beretta ammo made by Giulio Fiocchi of Lecco, Italy. This ammunition was loaded in 1942. Pressure averaged 30,200 with a maximum of 32,400 and a minimum of 28,700 pounds. Velocity averaged 1,450 with a maximum of 1,463 and a minimum of 1,437. The bullet weight averaged 115.8 grains.

Then came a test of the POISON load, the black bullet. This ammunition showed an average pressure of 41,700 pounds per square inch, with a maximum recorded of 46,300 and a minimum of 37,600. The bullets average 99.4 grains in weight, which compared favorably with the intelligence data which listed them at 99 grains. Velocity was up to an average of 1,518 feet per second, with a maximum of 1,527 and a minimum of 1,499 feet.

Study these figures on the "m.E." bullet. If you try to shoot these in foreign pistols, you may end up in the embalming room of your local undertaking establishment. Look at *facts*, not propaganda. Over 40,000 pounds in that doubtful Luger or P-38? The cartridge was designed for a heavy nine to ten-pound sub-machine gun—not two pounds of handgun.

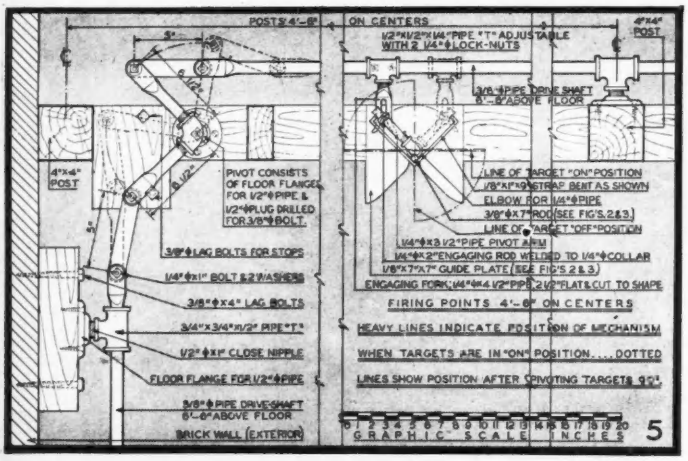
So I said that some bullets are not black? Pull a bullet and weigh it. If it is 99 to 100 grains, don't shoot it. How do you pull it? Place the cartridge on a flat and heavy steel surface. Tap the cartridge case with a light hammer over the bullet, tapping many times as you rotate the cartridge. Steel cases take a couple of minutes—brass cases much less. The tapping expands the case so you may pick the bullet out with the fingers.

If you have this light bullet, high-velocity load, you will find it useless, anyway—it doesn't shoot to the same point of impact. And don't try it in your souvenir pistol. Those P-38's have enough built-in faults, without adding one in the form of a too-powerful cartridge! And undertaking establishments are crowded these days, too. ◆ ◆ ◆

"Is there such a thing as a two-point buck, Joe?"

Indoor Pistol Targets

(*Continued from page 26*)


POSTS 4'-8" ON CENTERS
4"X4" POST
1/2"X1/2"X1/4" PIPE "T" ADJUSTABLE WITH 2 1/4"ϕ LOCK-NUTS
3/8"ϕ PIPE DRIVE SHAFT 6'-6" ABOVE FLOOR
PIVOT CONSISTS OF FLOOR FLANGE FOR 1/2"ϕ PIPE & 1/2"ϕ PLUG DRILLED FOR 3/8"ϕ BOLT
LINE OF TARGET "ON" POSITION
1/8"X1"X9" STRAP BENT AS SHOWN
ELBOW FOR 1/4"ϕ PIPE
3/8"ϕX7" ROD (SEE FIG'S. 2&3)
LINE OF TARGET "OFF" POSITION
1/4"ϕX3 1/2" PIPE PIVOT ARM
1/4"ϕX2" ENGAGING ROD WELDED TO 1/4"ϕ COLLAR
1/8"X7"X7" GUIDE PLATE (SEE FIG'S 2&3)
ENGAGING FORK: 1/4"ϕX4 1/2" PIPE, 2 1/2" FLAT & CUT TO SHAPE
3/8"ϕX4" LAG BOLTS FOR STOPS
1/4"ϕX1" BOLT & 2 1/4" ASHERS
3/8"ϕX4" LAG BOLTS
3/4"X3/4"X1/2" PIPE "T"
1/2"ϕX1" CLOSE NIPPLE
FLOOR FLANGE FOR 1/2"ϕ PIPE
3/8"ϕ PIPE DRIVE SHAFT 6'-6" ABOVE FLOOR
BRICK WALL (EXTERIOR)
FIRING POINTS 4'-0" ON CENTERS
HEAVY LINES INDICATE POSITION OF MECHANISM WHEN TARGETS ARE IN "ON" POSITION.... DOTTED LINES SHOW POSITION AFTER PIVOTING TARGETS 90°.
GRAPHIC SCALE INCHES
5

Overhead plan of pivoting target carrier and right-angle coupling of drive shaft.

The existing carriers on the NRA range were of the Caswell type, with the targets supported by a spring clip on the end of a 3/8-inch square steel rod. With slight modifications, the device could be fitted to any kind of carrier system.

The construction of the pivoting device is shown clearly in the drawings, and its operation is fairly obvious. The target is supported by a spring clip on the end of a shaft which is free to turn in a piece of tubing slightly larger in diameter than the shaft. This shaft has a lever arm on the upper end, and the movement of this arm is limited to an arc of 90° by a bent steel strap. At the end of the lever arm is a collar to which a piece of 1/4-inch steel rod has been welded on the lower side in a vertical position.

As the carrier rides into position, this rod engages a fork which is attached to a drive shaft running across the range. Proper engagement of the rod and fork would not be assured if it were not for a rubber band which holds the lever arm against the bent steel strap (target faced to shooter) as the device is run down the range. It should be noted that the operating lever should be in the "ON" position when the targets are rolled into position or returned to the firing line, as the fork will otherwise not be in line with the engaging rod.

By inserting the regular rod to hold the target, any number of firing points can be used for rifle or slow fire pistol practice without interference from a group who are using the pivoting device for timed or rapid fire.

Shooters who have fired in tournaments on the NRA range have been enthusiastic about the new system. The pivoting target device will be protected by patents, which will enable clubs to build similar layouts for their own use but will prevent manufacture for commercial purposes.—J. L. MURPHY, JR. ◆ ◆ ◆

MODERN RANGES

.30 CALIBER RANGE PLANS

SINCE THE END of the War, the NRA has received numerous requests from clubs and individuals for high-power rifle range plans. The only material we had on this subject was a rather brief and incomplete folder. However, the Range Planning Section has now finished a set of complete working drawings for a high-power or .30 caliber rifle range.

Now is the time for clubs to begin setting up plans for a range and program for this type of shooting; high-power rifles and ammunition are becoming available again. There will probably be high-power matches next year, so get your range in shape and start practicing.

The working drawings for the high-power rifle range include complete details for two types of carriers: the vertical or sash type which is commonly used on the larger ranges, and the horizontal or barn door type, suitable for small ranges with one or two firing points. Details of the butts for these respective carriers are given.

The plans also list safety recommendations for high-power rifle ranges. Though a natural bullet stop, such as a hill or cliff is usually available, there are a few situations when artificial bullet stops will have to be constructed; recommendations for such bullet stops are given.

Officials of affiliated clubs can, by writing the Association, obtain free of charge, the working drawings for the outdoor high-power rifle range. Individuals or officials of non-affiliated clubs who are interested in any of these plans can obtain them by sending $1.00 per set to the N.R.A.

This brings to four the number of range-planning folders available from the Association: basic clubhouse, outdoor high-power rifle range, outdoor smallbore and outdoor pistol. Each plan is large enough for easy use—16½ by 23 inches, and contains from three to eight sheets of clear, detailed drawings, prepared by an architect. The new .30 caliber outdoor layout is based on a 10-target unit, but the sheets are so laid out that ranges of any size, and in virtually any location, may be designed in detail from the plans.

Within a few months, plans for the construction of every type of shooting layout, indoor and outdoor, should be available—including enlarged working drawings of the newly designed moving targets for indoor pistol ranges, announced in this issue, page 26.

With interest in target shooting climbing to record heights, and club membership rolls at new peaks, now is the time to plan that new club layout—indoor or outdoor. ◆ ◆ ◆

The Old Coach

TIPS FOR TARGET SHOOTERS

IN SPITE OF ALL THAT HAS BEEN SAID and written, it is surprising that many riflemen do not "zero" their rifles, but continue to use the wasteful system of shooting and fishing for the bullseye. Recently I watched an experienced small-bore rifleman, a really first-class shot, blaze away at a 100-yard target in an almost hopeless attempt to line up a new telescope sight. Finally, after wasting nearly a box of hard-to-get ammunition, his bullets began to hit the paper. I remarked to him that it would have been so much easier if he had gone off to one side and zeroed his rifle and then added the needed clicks of elevation for 100 yards. With a silly smile he said, "I know it, but I can usually bore sight right on the paper."

What did he mean by bore sighting? It is a useful method of *approximately* aligning rifle sights so that the first shots from an unsighted rifle will hit close to the bullseye. To do this, lay the rifle across a sandbag or some other solid rest, with the muzzle pointing toward the target, let's say at 100 yards. Remove the bolt, or with lever actions use a little reflecting mirror cut down for the purpose, so that you can see through the bore and then by raising your head a bit, through the sights.

Now, let us assume that the cartridge for which this rifle is chambered has a bullet fall, caused by gravity, of eight inches at 100 yards. Shift the rifle until the bullseye is centered in the bore, and then raise your head and check the sights. They will certainly have to be adjusted. Now, without moving the rifle, set the sights so that they point at a spot eight inches below the bullseye. The reason for setting the sights low, if you haven't already guessed, is that when you finally fire the rifle the sights will be held to touch the bullseye, which will cause the bore of the rifle to point at a spot eight inches above it, as it must do in order to overcome that pull of gravity on the bullet. Adjusting this way, the first bullet will usually hit the target somewhere, and from then on it is merely a matter of clicking the bullet into the center of the bull. This method is useful when elevation tables are not handy, but it is much more satisfactory to zero your rifle at "point-blank" range, and thus do the job in an approved and systematic way. And by the way, in setting the rear sight on a zeroed rifle, if the table does not carry that particular cartridge, select the figures for some other that has approximately the same velocity. It will work out very close.

It has been emphasized repeatedly that accuracy means using ammunition known by test to be suitable for your particular rifle. Many a bad score has been shot simply because the cartridge and rifle did not agree. Also, you must bear in mind that some lots of ammunition, regardless of make, deteriorate more rapidly than others. You must continually check your ammunition before an important match, especially if you have had it on hand a year or more. This reminds me of a young fellow who owned a very accurate small-bore rifle in which he was using a selected lot of ammunition that he was hoarding jealously. However, in spite of his best efforts, the scores failed to hold up. He began to lose heart and was becoming badly discouraged. While the boy was away from home his father arranged for a top-notch small-bore shooter to fire that rifle, using the ammunition the boy had been saving so long for special occasions. The groups were very ordinary—really quite bad. The father sighed in disappointment, but the rifleman said, "Let's try some of a fresh lot of the same brand and see what will happen." He opened a box of his own supply and started firing. Finally, the rifleman dropped the buttstock from his shoulder and said, "If there is another small-bore rifle in the city that will beat that group, I'd like to see it."

Here's something else to think about: A lot of shooters fail to realize that .22 caliber rim-fire rifles can and do develop excess head space. It sounds a little silly to say that the slight recoil of such a tiny cartridge can, in time, spring back the best of our small-bore rifle actions, but it does and quite often, too. One high-grade single-shot rifle I knew of, that had been shot thousands of times over the years, developed such excessive head space as to completely ruin its accuracy. Correction of this trouble brought the rifle back into line. Not long ago, at a range I was visiting, I saw a small-bore match rifle, a heavy gun with all the super-duper trimmings, that had developed such excessive head space that its accuracy had vanished. Being bound to shoot in that particular match, the owner had used shim stock to force the bolt into place while he awaited repairs. All types and makes are subject to this dread malady. I say dread because most fellows go along with their groups getting worse and worse, and never suspect the real cause. If accuracy begins to fall off, or if you obtained your rifle secondhand, have the head space checked by a good gunsmith.

Groups stringing up and down excessively are usually caused by poor ignition. In .22 caliber rim-fire rifles, the trouble will usually be found in a weak mainspring, a broken firing pin or striker, or maybe just a battered tip on the striker or pin.

A used sling in good "broken-in" condition is worth a dozen nice new stiff ones. If you happen to have one of these dry stiff things, get some neatsfoot or other good leather oil, and rub some of it into the strap; a little goes a long way. Work it until it is soft and pliable and then, for the good of your clothes, take a rag and wipe off the excess.

When shooting the rapid-fire stages of a match, the average fellow has no time to waste as he gets into position. When you get on the line for your rapid strings, with sling on and rifle ready, keep an eye on *your* target, so that when you hit the dirt, prone or sitting, you won't be aiming at someone else's. In the "Basic Field Manual" you will find the approved positions described and pictured. Unfortunately, no position, regardless of how beautifully you hold it, is worth a tinker's damn if you have wasted too many precious seconds getting into it. The fleeting seconds you have lost in hitching and fussing around can prove to be the ones you needed most to finish your string within the time limit. Finally, be sure your rifle butt plate is rough enough to stick on your shoulder. Nothing is more disconcerting than to have a slick butt plate that slips down every time you push the bolt home. It's the little things that win matches; keep your eye on the details. ♦ ♦ ♦

POWDER SMOKE: THE NEWS DESK . . . READERS COMMENTS

AXEL W. PETERSON

One of the few remaining great gunsmiths of America, Axel W. Peterson, died during the night of July 24, 1946, at his home in Denver, Colorado.

Born in Sweden, December 18, 1859, Peterson came to this country when he was eighteen. He set type for his brother in Chicago two years, then went west in 1879, settling in Denver, Colorado, where he lived the rest of his life.

He worked eleven years in a gunsmithing shop on Larimer Street, then bought his own shop and set himself up in the trade. Always a craftsman with his hands, his reputation grew with his experience. In 1908 he entered into partnership with George Schoyen, another Denver barrel-maker. This partnership lasted until Schoyen's death in 1918.

Except for a brief period during the first World War when he worked with Browning in Salt Lake City, developing the first Browning machine gun, Peterson has always owned his shop.

Since 1900 his name and his barrels have always been associated with the great shooters of this country. While with Schoyen, he did much of the work for Chauncey Thomas and C. W. Rowland. Others who have used his barrels include Doctor Hudson, Walter Stokes, T. K. Lee, C. T. Westergaard, J. R. Buhmuller, and Ed McGivern.

A small, 135-pound man with a slight stoop, Peterson quit making barrels several years ago.

Axel W. Peterson

But orders kept pouring in and he returned to the trade, working up to the last. Occasionally he did complain, "I youst can hardly stand up any more."

The name Axel W. Peterson will always occupy a prominent place among the great American gunsmiths.

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DCM SALES

The Director of Civilian Marksmanship recently announced that the sale of .22 caliber long rifle cartridge balls would be suspended on September 1. This suspension comes as a result of the exceptionally large number of small orders (1000, 2000, etc.) received from individuals. The DCM advises individuals to pool their needs with club requests.

The DCM also reports that too many individuals fail to make purchases after having their purchase requests approved, and the item packaged and priced by the armory making final sale of it.

In the face of economic and personnel cutbacks being made on all Government agencies at present, this continued behavior by shooters may result in the curtailing of sales of ordnance items by the Government, on DCM approval, to them.

The cooperation of all individuals making purchases through the DCM in keeping small orders (less than case lots) to a minimum, and not placing any purchase requests with the DCM unless purchase of that item is a certainty, would be greatly appreciated by the DCM. This cooperation might be the determining factor in the continuation of sales to all shooters.

AH, YOUTH!

BOSTON—AP—A 20-year-old marine veteran of the Pacific islands campaigns has been denied a permit to carry a revolver needed in his job as an armored car guard.

Police said Henry J. Donigan, who fought on Guadalcanal, Guam, Peleliu and Saipan, is one year too young. The law states specifically that no revolver permit can be issued to any person under 21.

OUTDOORS WEEK

The Federated Sportsmen's Association of Lancaster County, using an idea suggested by Ralph Sides, sports columnist of the Lancaster New Era, sponsored a "Let's Get Outdoors with the Family Week," from June 21 through 28. With the backing of Scout leaders, city officials, and clergymen, the Sportsmen's Association demonstrated to the public that activities exist for every member of the family to enjoy some form of outdoor recreation during the summer months.

The first day of the week, the Lancaster Rifle and Pistol Club, the Hamilton Gun Club, and the Utilities Trap and Skeet Club, gave a demonstration and instruction to promote better understanding of the reasons for the proper use of firearms. Their part in the day's program included target, trap, skeet, and trick shooting exhibitions, along with instruction in gun safety. The Police Commissioner, commenting on this exhibition and instruction, said, "This program will go a long way in preventing juvenile delinquency and unnecessary accidents."

Also included in the day's activity was an exhibit of American and Japanese pistols, rifles, shotguns, submachine guns, supplied by the Middletown Air Technical Service Command.

Mr. John W. Price, curator of the Franklin and Marshall College Museum, gave a talk the next evening on outdoor life, illustrated with colored slides, found in Lancaster County.

A demonstration of archery and fly-casting by the Sportsmen's Association and Lancaster Archery Club was given one day.

Another day's activities included an auto trip to county historical spots for autoists, and a planned hike for those who prefer walking as a form of outdoor activity.

The program proved so popular that plans for another next year are under consideration.

RICOCHETS

MORE WINDS

Hollister, Missouri.

Editor:

In the June issue Albert Rickey complains of the inconsistency of wind dope given in two articles on the subject. To show that "anything can happen," I'll recount what occurred on our range some years back.

I had been doing some match practice shooting with a .30-'06 bull gun on the 200-yard reduced International target. Every now and then I'd get an unaccountable high shot out of a group. Since I was shooting Western Hand-Loaded Match Ammunition, I wrote the late Roy Riggs of Western about it. Then I sent him what was left of the ammo and it tested up to standard in their Mann barrel and rest.

He sent me another lot and I got the same occasional high shot with it. After a lot of correspondence with Mr. Riggs and Colonel Townsend Whelen, it was decided that this occasional high shot was caused by peculiar contour of the surrounding area. Our 200-yard range was situated so that bullets were fired across a small canon, deep on the right of the butts, more shallow on the left where it ended. Certain air currents, working up the canon from the lower elevation to the right, would build up the pressure and sort of bump the bullet.

EDSON W. HALL.

In his "Wind Dopes" in the May issue, Edwards Brown continually mentioned the effect of terrain on the bullets' flight. Here is an excellent example of peculiar conditions on one range.—ED.

.257 ROBERTS

Camp Lee, Virginia.

Editor:

After reading the last paragraph on page 19 of the June issue, I practically hit the ceiling. Where did F. C. Ness get information like that?

His version of the development of the .257 Roberts is one I hadn't heard before. Everyone seems willing to give credit to someone else for the .257 and not to the right person.

The cartridge was developed by A. O. Niedner in conjunction with Dr. Mann. Although there is a difference in opinion between Niedner and Roberts on the matter, it seems that Roberts and Sage collaborated with others, Mr. Niedner doing the work.

When Roberts started making the .257, using the Mauser action under the firm name, it was Niedner who made all the chambering reamers and tools.

I'm damned tired of everyone trying to give credit to someone else when it belongs to A. O. Niedner. He pioneered almost every high velocity cartridge we have today and did brilliant work with Dr. Mann. But he seems to be the forgotten man.

I have letters from Niedner, Pope, and Roberts, with tests made by Dr. Mann, to back me up, and I say *Niedner* made the .257!

T/5 GERALD O. KELVER.

TRIGGER PULL

Littleton, Colorado.

Editor:

I can't go along with the paragraphs covering the *how* of trigger pull in the July "Old Coach."

Page 35, fourth paragraph, reads: "Notice I recommend a *continuous* pressure until the gun is fired." Below that: "However, this method is dangerous. . . ." If the author will refer to Rifle Marksmanship, 1021, June 1920, he will find on pages 43 and 44 statements Col. McNabb made 25 years ago that detailed what was known for years as the McNabb system. It was and still is, so far as I know, the accepted manner of trigger release to teach if qualified riflemen are to result. I've taught a lot of boys and men this McNabb system; my own boys know nothing else. I teach kids the sight picture method which must accompany the McNabb system. How this system can be considered dangerous is beyond me. On the other hand, I can't understand how we are to teach a novice if we tell him to keep a *continuous* pressure. As one of our local club boys told me, "If that continuous stuff is right, then a fellow would never get good enough to use right way." Another friend says, "I wish more guys shot like that, I could give them fits."

In all sincerity, I deeply regret that such a hazy and misleading statement should appear in the RIFLEMAN.

ALLYN H. TEDMON.

Probably the criticisms of the "Old Coach" were made because the article did not emphasize strongly enough that "continuous" pressure is for beginners and tyros rather than top flight tournament shooters. Tests, not merely opinions, have shown that beginners do *produce quicker and better results with the continuous pressure than when taught to "hold and squeeze." Fewer flinchers develop. Smaller groups result. The shooter initiated under this method can easily and gradually switch to the system of the tournament "Master" when his skill develops sufficiently.*

You refer to training manuals of the 1920 vintage. An inspection of current Basic Field Manuals on Rifle Marksmanship will reveal: "After the slack has been taken up, pressure is steady (uniformly increasing) and continuous; once started it is never stopped." This statement is the result of experimental tests at the Infantry School at Fort Benning. The NRA conducted its own tests within pre-induction training classes in Washington. Those tests proved conclusively that continuous pressure produced smaller groups in a shorter time and, what was more important, gave the beginner a better understanding of what is really meant by trigger squeeze.—ED.

BUFFALO HUNTING

Marlboro, N. H.

Editor:

Hunt's article concerning the indestructibility of the buffalo's skull and his serious doubts of buffalo hunters' prowess with the guns of the time set me to leafing through "The Oregon Trail." The quotations given below are abridged.

"To fire at it (the head) would be useless, for a bullet flattens against the adamantine skull of a buffalo bull." Another, "I ran (rode) close to the bull and killed him with my pistols." Another, ". . . he (the buffalo) advances his foreleg, and exposes to view a small spot, denuded of hair, just below the point of the shoulder; upon this hunter brings the sight of his rifle to bear. . . . The buffalo shivers; death has overtaken him. . . still he does not fall, but walks heavily forward, as if nothing had happened, yet before he has gone far. . . you see him stop; he totters. . . rolls over on the sand, and dies with a scarcely perceptible struggle." Again, "He (Shaw) had fired from a distance of more than a hundred and fifty yards, and both balls had passed through the lungs, the true mark in buffalo shooting." Two buffalos dropped in their tracks with two rifle shots.

This was in 1846. Parkman was none too explicit about the weapons carried, but he used a "15 pound rifle" and his friend Shaw a "double-barreled smoothbore." The New England rifle of that day was rarely over .50 caliber and usually from .38 to .45, shooting a patched round ball. Shaw's smoothbore could have been anything from 20 to 10 gauge. There wasn't a 9 mm. Mauser or .270 Winchester or .30-'06 or even an Old Reliable Sharps in the whole country, but Parkman and Shaw shot plenty of buffalo at ranges from zero to 150 yards, pistols of the time being effective for 'longside shots from horseback and anything handy in the shoulder gun line for the longer ranges. They rarely had to hit a buffalo twice.

It will be especially noted that the head shot was carefully avoided in favor of the lung or "point of shoulder" hold and that a buffalo so hit, even with a pistol, was promptly a dead buffalo. I feel that Hunt's theory that the old hunters used only the head shot to save meat and hide is wrong.

PAUL ST.-GAUDENS.

Another reader, C. F. Osborne, Pueblo, Colo., calls our attention to the "Autobiography of Buffalo Bill." Cody's "Lucretia Borgia" was a breach-loading .50 caliber Springfield that killed numerous buffalo with only one shot—a body shot.—ED.

The JUNIOR MARKSMAN

JUNIOR COURSES

Windsor, Conn.

Editor:

It has always seemed that the NRA's graduated series of awards led to development of all-around shooters in four very practical positions. We have always felt that the ultimate attainment desired in the rifle game is to be a good shot in all four, not one or two positions. To judge by the series of junior qualifications, that is also the objective of the NRA.

However, the courses of fire offered in junior matches, either sponsored or cosponsored by the NRA, do not fit this objective. The shooter under 12 is likely to be very discouraged by the courses of fire and competition he must face in junior matches.

Mr. Walton has found through experience two fairly well-defined dividing lines of general abilities. These come at the ages of 12 and 15 and fit closely the points found by educational authorities to be the best separation points in working with students, thus sending them to grammar schools, junior high schools, and high schools.

At the age of 15 the child has become adult or near-adult in size, mentality, and co-ordination. Merely lack of experience separates him from the adult in the shooting game. By the time he is capable of doing good match work prone he is capable, with training, to do good work in *all four positions* and should be required to do so in most gallery matches, postal, and shoulder-to-shoulder, team and individual. The NRA Junior Club Postal Matches for this age group should be arranged to encourage and call for other than prone shooting.

Shooters over the age of 12, but not yet 15, can readily qualify for awards through the sixth bar (35 out of 50 kneeling), and have about the same difficulty qualifying for the seventh bar as those over 15 have qualifying as experts. Consequently, we believe that most matches for this age group should have prone, sitting, and kneeling stages, but should omit standing. Occasional prone matches and occasional four-position matches could give variety, but the four-position matches for this group should have the standing stage fired on single bull targets.

Shooters under the age of 12 are the "forgotten men" of the shooting game. They can learn to do very good target work prone and occasionally sitting. Some of the older ones can do fair plinking with a light rifle, standing, but it is a rare youngster of this age who can compete with the previously mentioned groups in any match. These youngsters are the most enthusiastic about entering and shooting matches, but are the most easily discouraged, frequently permanently, by the unfair competition they must face. These youngsters should have their own matches, and, we believe, the encouragement which matches for this age group would give would do as much for the promotion of "every man a rifleman" as any other single factor. Such matches should be divided equally between prone, and prone-and-sitting affairs. To supply variety, occasional matches should include the other two stages at single-bull targets.

These youngsters tire and recover quickly. Consequently, they should never be expected to fire more than ten rounds in a string. In shoulder-to-shoulder competition these youngsters should be allowed to rest between every ten rounds while other relays take their ten-round turns. Of course, this is frequently impossible, and when impossible, a match for this group should be all prone.

ERNEST W. EVENSON,
THOMAS W. WALTON, JR.

The National Rifle Association thoroughly agrees with the reasoning and conclusions of Junior Instructors Evenson and Walton. The NRA junior program of qualification was designed to offer such opportunities to younger and smaller junior shooters. The first seven of the fifteen progressive qualification stages may be fired prone, the next three sitting. Only in the higher stages of the Sharpshooter Bars, Expert, and Distinguished Rifleman ratings, is firing in the difficult kneeling and standing positions required.

In the competitive field only practical considerations have prevented wholesale adoption of these suggestions. The NRA does not, at present, conduct a sufficient number of nationwide matches to use the age and course breakdowns referred to. For example there is only one "open" NRA junior competition—the series of Junior Club Postal Team Matches, fired in the prone position only. However, a similar plan is being followed in the 1946 summer camp matches. This year, for the first time, individual matches are a part of this program. Campers over the age of 15 will fire a prone and standing course of fire. Campers under 15 will fire prone only. In the shoulder-to-shoulder Interscholastic Championships, a two-position course (prone and standing) was adopted, again because of practical considerations. In this competition involving both a team and individual match, the use of four positions would have forced these young shooters to fire 80 shots—too much shooting for the limited experience and endurance of most juniors. Also it would not have been possible to complete two four-position matches in the single day allotted to this competition.

Thanks to these men for some constructive suggestions—suggestions made with the improvement of the NRA junior program in mind. The Association has already adopted the basic theory back of these ideas and does plan matches to give every young shooter a chance to compete in a class, and over a course of fire, suitable to his own capabilities. Local clubs planning junior competitions will do well to study the above letter.—ED.

STOLEN GUNS

One Smith & Wesson .357 Magnum Revolver, #61515, 8⅜" barrel. Stolen about July 27 from Ned R. Wolfe, 2 Church Street Extension, Saranac Lake, N. Y.

One Colt's Woodsman, #93300, 4½" barrel, King sights, Franzite grips. Stolen July 7 from automobile 6 miles south of Bloomington, Indiana. Harley F. Francis, 1331 Lincoln Avenue, New Albany, Indiana.

The SPOTTING SCOPE With RAY STANN

Indicative of the increased interest in the shooting sport and increased recognition on the part of magazine, press, and radio since the end of the war is the number of gun and shooting articles appearing of late in national circulation magazines . . . September brings two more . . . *PIC*, now on the newsstands, brings forth *500,000 Riflemen*, a story on the target rifle sport written around National Smallbore Champion Rance Triggs, who is defending that title at Camp Perry this month . . . tells the story of the NRA in a three-page picture layout . . . Meanwhile, *ESQUIRE* for September prints a two page article by Charles B. Roth . . . *Old Dependable* . . . about the gun which became famous in the winning of the West . . . the .45 caliber Colt Frontier Model . . . Ably reporting many of the legends which have made this the best known six-shooter in the world, Mr. Roth likewise lists its liabilities in an easily read piece which should interest all historically minded gun bugs . . . and the accompanying illustration of guns from Bert Foster's collection is a thing of beauty.

☆ ☆ ☆

Current issue of "Popular Science on the Screen," just released by Paramount, films the first color movies of a modern shot tower . . . shows molten lead pour through perforated "skillets in the sky" for the nine-story drop which will transform it into perfect shot pellets.

☆ ☆ ☆

Of all the news clippings and photos on firearms subjects which pass over our desks, we think we have come up with the ultimate in "yellow journalism" . . . a news service photo of a four-year-old boy, ill in bed with measles, dazedly staring into the unflattering glare of a photographer's flash bulb . . . and holding the .38 caliber revolver with which he had just killed his mother . . . The boy's father had given him the gun as a plaything along with a handful of "old shells" which the father did not believe were of a size to fit the gun . . . What we want to know is—Who gets the onion bouquet . . . the father who gave the boy the gun originally, or the photographer who gave it back to him for the purpose of a "news" picture . . . or both? We'd also like to know if the photographer even bothered to unload the gun before giving it back.

☆ ☆ ☆

Speaking of news clippings, the response to our appeal in the July issue of the *Rifleman* for Gun vs. Bandit clippings has been more than gratifying . . . clippings of all types—legislative, competitive, historical—have followed, which earns a well deserved "Thank You" . . .

☆ ☆ ☆

Finished with your August issue? Circulation problems being what they are, hundreds of new reader-members have missed that issue . . . So, if you're finished, you could do a good turn to a fellow member by returning your August issue to the NRA.

COMING EVENTS

The four classes of registered tournaments are indicated as follows: AA—National Matches; A—Regionals; B—State championships and large district matches; C—Local. Unregistered and Unclassified are so indicated, as are tournaments requiring pre-entries or limiting entries.

SEPTEMBER

1, **South Dakota (C)**—5th Fall Smallbore Rifle Tournament. Herman F. Chapman, 504 Security Bank Bldg., Sioux Falls.
1-2, **Louisiana (B)**—7th Annual Smallbore Rifle Matches, at Harahan. C. L. Monnot, 3820 Perrier Street, New Orleans.
8, **Illinois (C)**—Annual Fall Harvest Pistol. Robert Jordan, 50 Waukegan Road, Deerfield.
8, **Pennsylvania (C)**—Annual Phila. Area Fall Smallbore, at Cold Point. Gustave Irlenborn, 502 Lorraine Ave., Oreland.
8, **Connecticut (Unregistered)**—Annual Pistol & Revolver Match. B. P. Richardson, Cos Cob.
8, **Maryland (C)**—Stemmers Run Smallbore. W. G. McDowell, 1211 Eastern Avenue, Essex.
14, **California (Unregistered)**—3rd Annual Butte County Fair Pistol Matches. Fred E. Stull, Gridley.
14, **Michigan (C)**—Peach Harvest Rifle Match. Forrest S. Moreland, 828 Lewis Avenue, St. Joseph.
14, **Iowa (C)**—American Legion Post #26 5th Annual Pistol Tournament. Carl Prevratil, 2018 West 10th Street, Davenport.
14, **Michigan (C)**—The Great Lakes Steel Annual Rifle Tournament, at Wyandotte. Clarence Eliason, 15019 Cleophus, Allen Park.
14-15, **Louisiana (C)**—Southern Louisiana Pistol Tournament, at Harahan. C. L. Monnot, 3820 Perrier St., New Orleans.
14-15, **Tennessee (Unregistered)**—Tenn. State .30 Caliber Matches. A. W. Nine, 104 Underwood Place, Knoxville.
14-15, **Massachusetts (Unregistered)**—Annual Outdoor Rifle & Pistol Shoot. Robert E. Marsh, 4 Pine Hill Circle, Wakefield.
14-15, **California (C)**—Northern Calif. Championship. C. DeWitt, 3701 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland.
14-15, **New York (C)**—Long Island Rifle and Pistol Assoc. Smallbore, at Bethpage. Herbert B. Guckel, 20-11 147th Street, Whitestone.
15, **Illinois (Unregistered)**—I. S. R. A. State Championship at Ft. Sheridan. Thomas M. Blakemore, 5004 W. Huron St., Chicago 44.
15, **Pennsylvania (C)**—Kittanning Fall Match E. W. Cook, 926 Orr Ave., Kittanning.
15, **Wisconsin (C)**—Fall Smallbore Match. J. Gruber, 2265 North 64th Street, Milwaukee 13.
15, **Maryland (B)**—Fourth Annual Pistol Tournament at Sparrows Point. Mrs. Elsie Penn, 4027 Roland Avenue, Baltimore.
15, **Maryland (C)**—Fall Smallbore, Baltimore. James Ambrose, 615 E St., Sparrows Point.
15, **California (C)**—San Francisco Police Monthly Pistol, at Lake Merced. Emile Dutil, 324 16th St., San Francisco.
15, **Connecticut (Unregistered)**—200 Yard Offhand Match (any sights, rifle, caliber). Kurt Billeb, 839 Wetherfield Ave., Hartford.
15, **Utah (C)**—Salt Lake Pistol Matches. Obed C. Haycock, 1870 Atkin Ave., Salt Lake City.
20-21-22, **California (C)**—Western States 1st Annual Championship Pistol Matches. Lt. A. M. Strand, Box 471, Los Angeles.
21-22, **Ohio (C)**—10th Annual Smallbore Tournament, at Mt. Healthy. Betty Vandeveer, 8000 Hamilton Avenue, Cincinnati 21.
21-22, **Oklahoma (B)**—State Pistol, Drumwright. Arch R. Foster, 1228 E. 29th St., Tulsa.
22, **Pennsylvania (C)**—Fort Roberdear Rifle. R. B. Barry, 407 2nd Ave., Altoona.
22, **Minnesota (B)**—State Pistol. Unice L. Ford, 1577 Ashland Ave., St. Paul.
22, **Illinois (Unregistered)**—I. S. R. A. State Championship .30 Caliber, at Fort Sheridan. Thomas M. Blakemore, 5004 W. Huron St., Chicago 44.
22, **Connecticut (Unregistered)**—Eastern States Muzzle Loader Championship. B. P. Richardson, Cos Cob.
22, **Pennsylvania (C)**—Smallbore Tournament. Alfred M. Newhard, 111 E. Susquehanna Street, Allentown.
22, **Georgia (C)**—Outdoor Pistol Tournament. Wm. E. Fennell, Box 100, Gainesville.
22, **Indiana (B)**—Indiana State Championship Smallbore. Mrs. Wuanelia S. Heise, 316 Warren Bldg., Michigan City.
22, **Illinois (C)**—Outdoor Smallbore Rifle. Kester E. Brewer, Route #1, Box 335, Aurora.
22, **Missouri (C)**—Outdoor Pistol Tournament. Frank Stubits, 5507 Lisette Avenue, St. Louis 9.
22, **New Jersey (C)**—Wynockie Valley Smallbore Championship at Midvale. John Berger, 447 Kearney Street, Paterson.
22, **Vermont (C)**—Fellows Gear Shaper Smallbore Rifle. Richard D. Wienka, Springfield.
22, **Minnesota (C)**—Eastern Minnesota Smallbore Tournament, at Mora. Basil Erwin, Sandstone.
22, **Iowa (C)**—Des Moines Club Smallbore. Knute Espe, 401 Ins. Exch. Bldg., Des Moines.
28-29, **Pennsylvania (B)**—Pennsylvania State Smallbore Rifle. Charles W. Senseman, 425 South 13th Street, Harrisburg.
29, **Illinois (Unregistered)**—American Legion League, at Fort Sheridan. Thomas M. Blakemore, 5004 W. Huron Street, Chicago 44.
29, **Michigan (Unregistered)**—Smallbore Rifle, at Kalamazoo. Robert E. Ten Eyck, 147 Burgess Drive, Galesburg.
29, **Georgia (C)**—Smallbore Rifle Tournament. William E. Fennell, Box 100, Gainesville.
29, **District of Columbia (C)**—Park Police Pistol Tournament, at Washington, D. C. Emmett S. Mast, 4114 70th Avenue, Landover Hills, Md.
29, **Indiana (C)**—"Post-Perry" Smallbore. Hubert K. Rhodes, 3015 Noble St., Anderson.
29, **Michigan (C)**—Smallbore Tournament. Lawry Hermesdorf, 676 Randall Road, Muskegon.

OCTOBER

5-6, **New York (C)**—Fall Rifle Championship Tournament, at Bethpage. V. B. Cleaver, Box 356, Hicksville.
6, **Illinois (B)**—Annual Fall Harvest Rifle Match. Robert Jordan, 50 Waukegan Road, Deerfield.
6, **Illinois (Unregistered)**—Bliss Trophy Team Match, at Fort Sheridan. Thomas Blakemore, 5004 Huron St., Chicago.
6, **California (Unregistered)**—Southland Pistol Matches. R. S. Pease, Route #3, Box 84, San Diego.
6, **California (Unregistered)**—Oakland Monthly Pistol Tournament. John H. Valerga, Jr., 3800 Cerrito Avenue, Oakland.
6, **Indiana (C)**—Falls Cities Pistol. J. R. Anderson, Jr., 1063 Bardstown Rd., Louisville, Ky.
12-13, **West Virginia (C)**—9th Annual Mountain State Pistol. R. A. Simpson, 212 West 10th Street, Parkersburg.
12-13, **New Jersey (C)**—1st Annual "Swiss 500," at Union City. Walter Tanner, 119 Hobart Street, Ridgefield Park.
12-13, **Georgia (C)**—South Atlantic Smallbore. Charles P. Simon, Box 84, Ogeechee Rd., Savannah.
13, **California (Unregistered)**—Bay District Smallbore. C. DeWitt, 3701 Lincoln Ave., Oakland.
13, **Illinois (Unregistered)**—I. S. R. A. Club Qualification, at Fort Sheridan. Thomas M. Blakemore, 5004 W. Huron Street, Chicago 44.
13, **Pennsylvania (C)**—Outdoor Smallbore, at Chester. Mary Jane Oster, 2802 Township Line, Llanerch.
13, **Missouri (C)**—19th Annual Greater St. Louis Smallbore. H. Winston McClure, 7046 Dale St., St. Louis.
13, **New York (C)**—Smallbore Rifle. Edward R. Burmeister, Canandaigua.
13, **Arizona (C)**—Sectional Pistol, Phoenix. Marck Weiss, Box 1024, Prescott.
18-19, **North Carolina (B)**—State Smallbore. Mrs. Alice D. Molt, 403 Charlotte St., Ashveille.
18-19, **Alabama (B)**—8th Annual State Championships. J. D. Clem, 315 S. 70th St., Birmingham 6.
20, **New York (C)**—Pistol Match, at Bethpage. V. B. Cleaver, Box 356, Hicksville.
20, **California (C)**—San Francisco Police Monthly Pistol, at Lake Merced. Emile Dutil, 324 16th St., San Francisco.
26-27, **Texas (C)**—Ada Zilker Robinson Pistol. O. L. Canady, 2502 Indian Trail, Austin.
27, **New York (C)**—Smallbore Rifle Match at Bethpage. V. B. Cleaver, Box 356, Hicksville.
27, **California (C)**—5th Sacramento Valley Smallbore. Melvin A. Koontz, 2208 Ninth Ave., Sacramento 14.
27, **Tennessee (C)**—Volunteer Club Smallbore. A. W. Nine, 104 Underwood Pl., Knoxville.

BOOK REVIEWS

UNCOMMON VALOR

By SIX MARINE CORPS COMBAT CORRESPONDENTS

"The battle lulled on a tiny Pacific isle. A teen-aged Marine rifleman, fagged and worn, slumped on his hunkers over his rifle, his helmet dangling between his knees. He shook his tired, tousled head and muttered. Bitterly the words came through his teeth. 'I'm too young. I'm too goddamned young to see what I've seen.' "

Shortly he went on, and soon his job was done. In the vernacular of the Marine Corps, "the butts were secured." Another small island stepping stone on the road to Tokyo had been cleared of its Jap vermin. In the securing of these "butts," these island stepping stones, to use the words of Admiral Nimitz, "Uncommon valor was a common virtue."

"Uncommon Valor" is an all too brief history of the six Marine Corps Divisions in action during the Pacific war. It was written by six Marine Corps Combat Correspondents, one from each division. These newspapermen were allegedly "about twice as old and half as rugged as their fellow Marines." When the war broke, "they traded a green eyeshade for a helmet and wheedled their way into the Corps in spite of ulcers and varicose veins. They had the rank of non-commissioned officers and the gall of a rear-area second lieutenant, and they kept their typewriters in better condition than their rifles."

The book is rich in episodes and anecdotes of individual action which have become Marine Corps tradition. Take "Slug" Marvin of the Third, for instance. Many are the stories of his exploits and of his boldness and fierce hatred of the Japs. "One night he decided to sleep in a Jap fox-hole. The apparently dead enemy was still in it. Marvin shoveled dirt onto the body. The Jap suddenly sat up and aimed a pistol at Slug. In an instant, Marvin killed the Jap with his shovel. Then he continued tossing in dirt, threw in a piece of corrugated iron and slept on it." This is a good account of the activities of the six Marine divisions which saw action in the war.—C. M. P.

(Cloth, 256 pages, one color plate and thirteen full page maps, $3.00. Published by the Infantry Journal Press. Available through the NRA Book Department.)

MACHINE GUNS OF THE U. S., 1895-1944

By MAJOR B. R. LEWIS

The early application, evolution, and development of the machine gun during the period 1860-1885 were treated exhaustively by Lt. Col. Calvin Goddard in three series of articles published in *Army Ordnance*, beginning with the September-October, 1941, issue and ending with the January-February, 1944, issue.

However, in searching official records for material on machine guns used by our armed forces, it was found that while much had been written on the subject, no complete account has ever appeared in which all official models were listed and described.

To remedy this deficiency, Major Lewis has compiled for *Army Ordnance* a series of articles describing the machine guns of the United States which will serve as a catalogue of handy reference. It begins where Colonel Goddard's series ended, with the first U. S. .30 caliber machine gun, and follows the evolution and development of the machine gun through World War I up to the present time.

These articles have now been reprinted in eleven-page pamphlet form. Col. Leo A. Codd, Editor of *Army Ordnance*, tells us this reprint may be had without charge by application to the Army Ordnance Association, 705 Mills Building, Washington 6, D. C.—J. S. H.

TOURNAMENT REVIEWS

Look at the names of these Regional winners: Jess Woody, Kyle Snowhill, Charlie Hamby, Basil Starkey, Edward Walmsley, and Ed Kell, all men with the know-how and experience that it takes to make a champion.

These fellows, with other Regional winners and numerous other smallbore and pistol shooters, are now scrapping for the titles of National Smallbore Champion and National Pistol Champion, now held by Harry Reeves and Rans Triggs, at Camp Perry.

Our counsel is, lay your money on the fellow you like—and keep your fingers crossed.

MIDWESTERN RIFLE AT DEERFIELD

Kyle W. Snowhill, of Quincy, Illinois, defeated some of the best smallbore shooters of the Middle West to win the Midwestern Regional Rifle Tournament, held in Deerfield, Illinois, on July 20 and 21. Pressed all the way by Martin Phelan, of Winnetka, Illinois, and John Moschau, of Waterloo, Iowa, Snowhill managed to beat them out and take first position in the Regional Championship Aggregate. But he had a hard fight; Phelan was only two points behind Snowhill, and Moschau only six points behind the 3166 fired by Phelan.

Snowhill

Close behind Moschau was R. Lee Cooper, of Warrensburg, Missouri, who won first place in the Expert Class with a score of 3157. John N. Haskins of East Gary, Indiana, fired a 3139 to take first in the Sharpshooter Class. Chester V. Robertson, of Chicago, Illinois, scored 3085 to win first in the Marksman First Class. Since there were no competitors firing in the Marksman Class, there will be only four trip-winners from the Midwestern Rifle Regionals at Deerfield.

SOUTHEASTERN RIFLE AT GREENSBORO

At Greensboro, N. C., July 26 and 27, the Southeastern Regional Rifle Tournament was fired under conditions which could not have been much better. Also, Charles G. Hamby, Atlanta, Ga., smallbore shooter, could not have been much better himself.

Hamby

Hamby fired a fine score of 1390 to win the Regional Championships, dropping three points in the last match of the Any Sight firing, and seven in the Iron Sight matches.

Neil Cocking, St. Petersburg, Fla., was top Expert in the Regional Aggregate. Johnny Skeadas, of Savannah, Ga., was announced as high Sharpshooter and almost missed the announcement because he was preparing to leave and quite unaware that it would be coming. A newcomer to the game, W. H. Johnson, of Cartersville, Ga., won first place in the Marksman First Class. There were no match entries in the Marksman Class.

SOUTHWESTERN PISTOL AT AUSTIN

Jess Woody, Stanton, Texas, blew into Austin for the Southwestern Regional Pistol Regionals and blew out again, leaving the place in a shambles. Woody fired his way into a twenty-two point victory over second-place Don Lawrence's 1693 in the Regional Aggregate.

Jess won several individual matches, including the .22 National Course event with 291 and the .45 Timed-fire Match with 196. He also placed in numerous other matches.

Woody

Third-place winner in the Regional Aggregate was Bill Sullivan of El Paso, who scored a 1688. Colonel C. F. Densford of San Antonio, was winner of several individual matches and placed fourth in the Regional Aggregate.

G. H. Rogers of Austin led the Experts Class with a score of 1678. Jack Stephenson of Galveston, Texas, placed close behind him for second high Expert.

In the Sharpshooter Class it was O. G. Blackwell, LaTuna, Texas, with 1631. Second was J. F. McMeel of Shreveport, La. Dr. B. F. Averbach of Corpus Christi scored 1552 to win over Armo Spears and A. R. Martin in the Marksman First Class.

Joe Walton, Beeville, Texas, was high in the Marksman Class scoring 1439. N. M. Thompson was close behind him for second.

PACIFIC NORTHWESTERN PISTOL AT SEATTLE

Edward Walmsley, a Seattle policeman, won the .22 caliber Aggregate in the Pacific Northwestern Regional Pistol Tournament, in Seattle, on August 10 and 11. With that his springboard, Walmsley went to a second place win in the Center-fire Aggregate, and first in the Regional Championship. Walmsley's Regional Aggregate was 1724 to second-place Arnvid Anderson's 1719. In third with 1701 was Mel Rogers, who won the Center-fire Aggregate 858 to Walmsley's 855.

A forest ranger from Trout Lake, Wash., Russell Niblock, fired a 1643 to take top position among the Experts, while Major Joseph Ramsey, of McChord Field scored 1628 to win the Sharpshooter Class. High Marksman First Class was another Seattle policeman, Henry Koschak, with 1532. Ray Heinze, of Bremerton, Washington, won the Marksman Class, 1528.

FARWESTERN PISTOL AT SAN FRANCISCO

Members of the Los Angeles Police had a field day at the Far Western Regional Tournament in Lake Merced, California, near San Francisco, on July 19, 20, and 21.

Basil Starkey, a Captain on the Los Angeles force, won the Far Western Regional Championship, scoring 1723 out of the 1800 possible. Their pistol team won the three team matches, the .22, center-fire and .45 events.

High woman and second-place winner in the match was Gloria Norton. She was not badly beaten by Starkey in the Regional Aggregate, in fact his 1723 was equalled by her, but Starkey's outranked her score.

In the Expert Class it was Dudley Harkleroad, of San Francisco and L. Gibbs of Long Beach. Their scores were 1686 and 1685.

High in the Sharpshooter Class was Marcus Pope, with a score of 1682. Close behind him with 1681 was E. Hitchcock, who came from Honolulu to compete in the matches.

Ed Slaven, of Monrovia, California, won top position in the Marksman First Class with 1647. Slaven was a full twenty-eight points over a second-place winner R. Beachler of Santa Monico.

Another fellow from Hawaii, J. Lum, scored a 1631 to win the Marksman Class competition. A San Francisco shooter, H. L. Reid, fired a 1511 to take second.

SOUTHWESTERN RIFLE AT TULSA

Ed Kell, of Atoka, Oklahoma, served up a 3172 to win the Southwestern Regional Rifle Championship, held in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on July 19, 20, and 21. Throughout the tournament Kell was given a close run by second-place J. L. Kelley, high Expert H. T. White of Dallas, Texas, and third-place R. C. Pope.

Kell

Kell didn't have much to go on, other than consistent shooting. He was third in the 50 meter match and the 50 yard event, and second in another 50 meter match, but he placed first in the Any Sight Aggregate and, the pay-off, the Regional Aggregate.

With H. T. White in the leading position of class winners with 3160 to take the Experts, O. D. Click of Lubbock, Texas, fired 3146 to place first in the Sharpshooter category. High in the Marksman First Class was J. A. Fox, Shreveport, La., with 3143. Elizabeth Whitaker won first-place in the Marksman Class.

DOPE BAG

Conducted by Major General J. S. Hatcher
Edwards Brown, Jr., A. H. Barr, J. L. Murphy, J. S. Rose

THIS MONTH:

Figuring Stopping Power · Misfit Ammo in Jap Rifles · Beware Unknown Powders .30-40 Krag Conversion · Mixing Powders The Rowland Pope · Chicago Air Rifle Enfield Bedding · Handicapped Offhand Shooter · Recoil Problems · Trade Dope

HOW TO FIGURE STOPPING POWER

"I'm somewhat confused on this matter of 'stopping power.' I have particular reference to the article entitled: 'The Army Looks at German Handguns,' in the Dope Bag, June 1946, issue.

"I do not take issue nor object to the conclusions so stated and I do like the .45 ACP, but I cannot comprehend how the stopping power of the various guns is calculated (if it actually is). This point has been bothering me for quite some time and I believe it does other readers, too.

"For instance, on page 49, column 1, I am led to believe that the stopping power of the .45 ACP is twice that of the 9 mm. Luger. Yet comparing the muzzle energy of the two bullets and considering that both bullets come to rest in the target (body), it appears to me that the .45 ACP is only 3 per cent better than the 9 mm. Luger.

"It is also stated that the .45 Colt New Service is better as a 'stopper' than the .45 ACP. This is borne out as 429 M.E. for the .45 Colt is 13 per cent better than that of 378 M. E. for the .45 ACP.

"However, on page 50, column 2, the statement is made that the .45 ACP is even better as a 'stopper' than the .357 Magnum. Here the M.E. of 800 f.s. for the Magnum is 111 per cent more than that of the .45 ACP.

"If the .357 Magnum and 9 mm. Luger bullets *don't* stop in the target, then I can readily understand why the .45 ACP is superior, but if all the above do stop, then I don't.

"Again, I have been led to believe that a small rifle bullet that 'explodes' inside an animal, having the same M.E. as that of a heavier bullet that doesn't 'explode' upon impact (but still comes to rest within the body), doesn't have the same stopping power as the heavier bullet.

"Will you please put me right on these points and state the relative stopping power of the following bullets in order of rank:

".357 Magnum	158 grs.	1510 m. v.
9 mm. Luger	125	1150 "
.38 ACP Super	130	1300 "
.45 Colt	255	870 "
.45 ACP	230	860 " "

—A. W. W., El Cerrito, Calif.

Answer: The questions that have occurred to you regarding the relative stopping power of pistol bullets are logically stated and very much to the point.

However, experience has shown that stopping power is not necessarily proportional to the striking energy even when the bullet stops entirely within the body. Consider a 200-pound man who jumps off a chair two feet high. When he strikes the floor he absorbs 400 foot-pounds of energy, or more than the muzzle energy of the .45 caliber ACP. Obviously this 400 foot-pounds which he absorbs has no stopping power at all, but if a one pound weight fell off a shelf ten feet high and hit him on the head with ten foot-pounds of energy, the stopping power would then be enormous.

In testing plastic body armor, a .45 automatic has been fired repeatedly against a man wearing the protecting suit, and while the 340-foot-pound impact gives the wearer quite a jolt, it does not inflict any injury.

Much of the shock effect of any bullet is due to the throwing of particles of bone, flesh, body fluid, etc., to one side or the other as the bullet plows through the body. The factor which transmits the velocity to other particles is not energy but momentum (that is, mass times velocity). The shock effect is influenced by several other factors, such as the sectional area of the bullet, the shape of the point, and the bullet material. A bullet with a flat or blunt point gives more shock than one with a rounded or pointed end, and a lead bullet gives more shock effect than a jacketed bullet of the same size and shape.

Some years ago I combined all these factors into a formula intended to give a good practical approximation of the stopping power of pistol bullets and this was published on pages 432 to 435 of my "Textbook of Pistols and Revolvers," with a table on page 435 that I am told was used by the Army Board in making their estimates of stopping power. On that table the stopping power of the 9 mm. Luger is given as 29.4 and that of the .45 ACP is given as 60.0.

As compared to a plain, lead, round-nosed bullet like that of the .38 S&W Special, we found that one with a blunt nose like the .38 Super Police or with a small flat on the nose like that on the .45 Colt seemed to increase the stopping power by 5 per cent; a large flat like that on the .38 Colt Special gave a 10 per cent increase. The square-nosed wad-cutter shape and the Keith shape with a flat point and a sharp shoulder both give about a 25 per cent advantage. A jacketed bullet has about nine-tenths the stopping power of a plain lead bullet of the same shape.

Using the convenient figure of 1000 as a factor for bullet shape and material for the standard lead bullet with round nose, other factors would be: for the round-nosed jacketed .45 ACP and 9 mm. Luger, 900; for the flat-pointed conical 9 mm. Luger, 1000; for the plain lead .45 Colt with a small flat on the point, 1050; for the .357 Magnum with Keith bullet, 1250.

To obtain a figure for each bullet which is approximately proportional to the stopping power, multiply the cross section of the bullet in square inches by the factor for shape and material, and multiply the result by some figure which is proportional to the momentum. A convenient figure to use is the muzzle energy divided by the muzzle velocity, which gives one-half the momentum. For the bullets you mention with the weights and velocities stated, this gives the following:

Bullet		*Approx. Stopping Power*
*.45 Colt lead	870 f.s.	84.0
*.357 Keith	1510 f.s.	67.2
.45 ACP	860 f.s.	62.4
.357 Jacketed	1510 f.s.	48.4
.38 Super automatic	1300 f.s.	34.3
9 mm. Luger conical point	1150 f.s.	32.4
9 mm. Luger round nose	1150 f.s.	29.1

The two marked with an asterisk are not legal for military use. Jacketed bullets only were used in revolvers and pistols during the war as the Germans announced they would execute any captured persons found to have plain lead bullets in their possession. The Board did not claim the .45 automatic to have more power than the .357 Magnum, but that the .45 ACP excelled even the .357 "for military use."

No claim of absolute accuracy is made for the formula used above, but it does furnish a convenient method for estimating the comparative stopping power, and it has been found in practice to give a good approximation of the actual results obtained by experimental firing.—J. S. H.

MISFIT AMMO IN JAP RIFLES

"A number of the fellows here are using the .250-3000 Savage cartridge in 6.5 mm. Jap rifles brought back as souvenirs. I have been unable to get a 6.5 mm. Jap cartridge to mike it and would like to know about this combination. The .250 Savage bullet is .258 and that of the 6.5 mm. Mannlicher, I believe, is .264. The bullet should be O.K. but how about the case? Does it fit? I believe some of the fellows found it necessary to rub the head of the Savage cartridge case with sandpaper to get it to chamber."—G. W. H., Visalia, Calif.

Answer: There is only one explanation of your comments on using the .250 Savage cartridge in the 6.5 mm. Jap rifle. The Jap 6.5 mm. cartridge case near the base measures .448 inch in diameter and the .250 Savage will measure at least .466 inch. The only reason the .250 Savage will go in that chamber is that the Japs must chamber them noticeably oversize. Then, too, if it were not for this large .250 case your proposition could be entirely dangerous, because the shoulder or head space measurement from head of the case to the shoulder is shorter for the .250 Savage than for the Jap rifle. Then you have only the body of the case serving instead of the shoulder for head spacing. The Jap case is longer than the .250 Savage. If you want complete meas-

urements as we found them on the Jap cartridge, refer to the June, 1945 issue of the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN.

I do not see how anyone could get accuracy with that combination, even though it would work otherwise. The .250 Savage bullet mikes .257 inch in diameter and the Jap bullet mikes .264 to .266 inch. Try dropping a .25 caliber bullet through that Jap barrel as it should go through without forcing.—A. H. B.

BEWARE UNKNOWN POWDERS

"In recent months there have been many words of caution published in connection with the use of 'liberated' and surplus military arms, but one serious danger point which the handloader may encounter has not received, in my opinion, its proper share of attention: I refer to surplus supplies of various propellants. In Canada, several sporting supply houses are selling various types of military powders over the counter, and this represents a very real menace.

"I have in my possession samples of two different powders which illustrate the point of my argument. One of these propellants looks very much like du Pont 3031; the other is an English powder made by Kynoch, being of the usual European 'leaf' granulation. The former was used as a propelling charge for the 3-inch mortar, and therefore calculated to burn efficiently with very little confinement. The latter powder was made for use in proof loads for proving the now-obsolete .55 cal. antitank rifle! Both look, to the uninitiated, much like useful powders for reloading purposes.

"These powders, and many other special-purpose propellants, will undoubtedly find their way into the powder stores of a good many handloaders, and since there are absolutely no data available on the performance of these in rifle cartridges, the shooter acquiring them will naturally try to work up his own loads, and no matter how careful he may be, will very likely get into more or less serious difficulties, for reasons which I will try to make apparent.

"As you are no doubt aware, I have laboratory facilities for determining the characteristics of ballistic materials, and upon receipt of the above samples at once fired a few assessment rounds. In each case, the pressure developed with a maximum load in a small-capacity cartridge was about the same as that developed by a similar load of IMR 4198, with a lower projectile velocity. This, on the face of it, looks encouraging, since this is about what would happen with a standard propellant having a burning rate slightly slow for the cubic capacity of the cartridge case; thus encouraging the experimenter to use a larger weight of charge in a larger-capacity case. This, in fact, was my next step, under proper laboratory control, of course. Making the assumption that the characteristics of the unknown powder were similar to 4198, a round was prepared with each, using this time a large-capacity .22 wildcat for which complete powder performance records had previously been compiled.

"From these records, the charge of unknown propellant was proportioned to develop about 50,000 pounds per square inch, assuming that the unknown powder produced the same performance as 4198. The error of the assumption was at once obvious when the rounds were fired, for while the velocities recorded were all that could be desired, and more, the pressures and burning rates went completely out of control, and if the shots had been fired in anything but a well-constructed pressure gun, there would have been a nasty mess to clean up. There is no point in giving the time of pressure rise, since the figures would mean little to the average handloader; the peak of pressure, however, has a definite meaning to most men familiar with firearms, and some idea of what these rounds would have done to the handloader's pet rifle can be formed from these: one round gave a pressure peak of about 90,000 pounds per square inch, the other 102,000. The rate of pressure rise, in each case, was such that if this rate were maintained for one second, the pressure at the end of the second would have risen to several million tons!

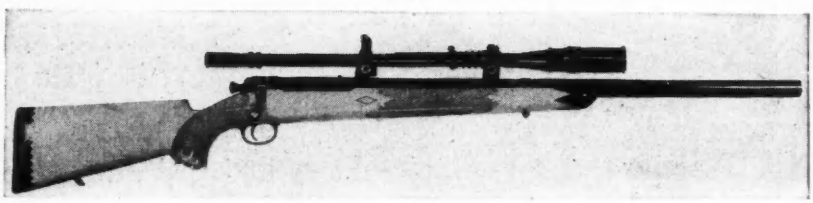
"I do not wish to convey the impression that all powders of military origin which may fall into the hands of the handloader will have these dangerous characteristics; the point is that some of them will behave in this way, and since smokeless powder is, for the average rifle cartridge reloader, the cheapest component, it is not worth taking a chance on. As pointed out above, the insidious thing about these powders is that they behave in quite a gentlemanly manner in small-size cases, but in these small chambers do not produce sufficiently high velocity to make their use worth while. This mild performance is a delusion and a snare calculated to lead the user into very deep, dark, swift water, and the wise amateur ballistician will do well to refuse any powder which is not offered in a properly labelled cannister bearing the name of a reputable powder mill, and sealed in the approved manner.

"The question may well be asked, 'while these powders may be dangerous in full loads, can they not be used with safety in reduced loads?' The answer is absolutely not; many of these special powders were not designed for use as propelling charges in cartridge arms, and hence do not have the mechanical strength necessary to withstand the blasting about to which partial charges may be subjected.

"When the charge in the cartridge leaves a considerable amount of air space, the charge may assume a variety of positions in relation to the flash hole. If the charge is located all towards the forward end of the powder cavity, all is well. If, however, a portion or all of the charge lies immediately in front of the flash hole, as would happen frequently in use where the rifle is carried muzzle upward, the blast of the primer will blast the powder charge about, and even with powders developed for use under these conditions, some of the charge will be broken up into a finer granulation, which will increase its burning rate. This can and does cause even normal propellants to behave in a most erratic manner, and with unsuitable powders almost anything can happen. For instance, a reduced load of one of the faster-burning, standard rifle propellants, loaded in the .30-'06 case with a loading density of about 0.4, behind an 85 grain jacketed bullet, gave a variation in pressure peak between 17,000 and 42,000 pounds per square inch, depending upon the position assumed by the powder charge. From the cathode-ray oscilloscope records of the time-pressure curve the reason for this wide variation is apparent. The variation in projectile velocity resulting from this pressure variation was only about 5 per cent; the reason again evident from the C.R.O. record.

"The oscilloscope as used in ballistic laboratories produces a record of the rise and decline of the chamber pressure against a time base, and thus the area enclosed by the base line and the pressure curve is a measure of the total force of the charge. Obviously, if the entire charge is burned before the projectile emerges from the muzzle, the total force is relatively constant, provided that the propellant is burned at some pressure within its tolerance

WHAT CAN BE DONE WITH THE .30-40 KRAG



"Here is a picture which shows what can be done with a .30-40 Krag action. This Krag is a three-shot job chambered for the Krag Lightning, which is the case necked down for a .22 caliber bullet. This cartridge has plenty of steam.

"The barrel was made by Buhmiller and is very accurate. I have shot chucks at 275 and 300 yards. The side of the Krag magazine has been removed and the cartridge feeding finger is mounted on a plate which feeds the cartridges up. This permits the stock to cover the receiver on both sides. The action handles the three wildcat cartridges as smoothly as it did the .30-40 cartridges.

"I do not class myself as a gunsmith. Guns are my hobby—I enjoy converting good guns into something I like. It took me over 250 hours time to build this gun. The photograph does not show the various colors of plastic inlays or the Monel fittings which called for plenty of time and patience. The stock, as you can see, is made of curly maple. The barrel was left heavy for better accuracy. The total weight of the gun with the twelve-power Unertl scope is thirteen pounds."—G. S., Vermilion, Ohio.

Note: The picture accompanying this letter shows a beautiful piece of home gunsmithing. Members are cautioned to not load for the Krag action above 40,000 lbs. per square inch.

range. It is evident, then, that for a given weight of charge, in a given chamber, no *great* change in velocity can be expected, regardless of pressure variation. If the charge is burned at the rate determined by its granulation and composition, a normal pressure peak will be obtained, and the time of burning will be normal. If, however, the powder is broken up by violent mechanical agitation, thus greatly increasing its rate of burning so that the entire charge is consumed in a fraction of the normal burning time, the pressure peak will be much higher; roughly in inverse ratio to the burning time. In each case, the area enclosed by the time-pressure curve will be roughly the same; hence the total force applied to the projectile is nearly the same, and the same muzzle velocity can be expected, within a few per cent.

"I have digressed somewhat from the trail, but it must be concluded that a powder of inferior mechanical strength should definitely be avoided in reduced loads. If a rapid-burning powder designed for use in small-capacity chambers can, when used under conditions for which it was not designed, produce a pressure variation of 250 per cent, dire results may ensue upon the similar treatment of a powder which is not designed for use in a normal rifle chamber at all."—C. C. MEREDITH, Ontario, Canada.

Answer: I fully concur in your warning against using any powder for reloading unless the user knows exactly what it is and what results can be expected from it.

Using an unknown powder just because it is surplus and can be had cheaply would seem to me to be about as sensible as taking unlabeled medicine out of the surplus stock of a drug-store, on the theory that because it is medicine, it must be good for what ails you.—J. S. H.

MIXING POWDERS

"Could someone in your Technical Department answer the following question for me? Is it possible to substitute a small amount of bulk smokeless powder for a part of the black powder in a black-powder load for shotgun shells and abate appreciably the smoke and powder fouling?"—A. G., El Cerrito, Calif.

Answer: A blend of smokeless and black powder will not be of much help to you in reducing the amount of smoke and powder fouling which is characteristic of black powder.

There is another reason why I would hesitate to recommend the blending of powders. Two blended powders which are too widely separated as to grain size or density have a tendency to settle out or separate. When this happens you never know where you are ballistically. Consequently you are liable to get wide variations in pressures and velocities.—E. B.

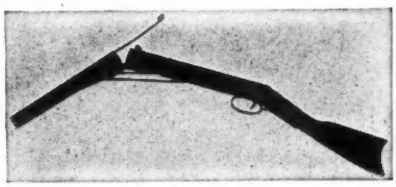
THE ROWLAND POPE

C. W. Rowland's famous old rifle, which has the reputation of being the most accurate ever made by Harry Pope, is for sale. Its owner is Walter Greer, of 635 Todds Lane, Hilton Village, Va.

A gun capable of placing ten shots in one ragged hole at 200 yards has earned the right to museumlike protection. For this unique exception we are permitting the omission of a price. If you are interested in adding the renowned rifle to your collection, or that of a public museum, Mr. Greer would be pleased to hear from you.

THE CHICAGO AIR RIFLE

"It would be interesting to know how many of the old-timers remember the 'Chicago' with its brilliant red finish. It was made by the Markham Air Rifle Company of Plymouth, Michigan, and did a lot to foster gun-mindedness in the boys of the 1890's. The boy who had one was envied by the rest of the neighborhood. It was the forerunner of the 'Daisy'



and was probably the hardest-shooting, spring air gun ever marketed.

"The gun was unique in that, aside from a brass tube and a few bits of wire, it was made entirely of wood. Even the pump cylinder was a wooden hole coated with graphite. As the gun was comparatively short lived, it is doubtful if many have survived.

"I recently obtained one of these guns so well preserved that I was able to put it in excellent shooting condition. A picture is enclosed."—J. M. D., Woodbridge, N. J.

ENFIELD BEDDING

"I have removed the wood on top of the barrel of my M1917 Enfield and have cut off the forestock about one inch ahead of the groove in the forearm. After assembling the rifle, I find that the stock bears only on about one-eighth inch of the barrel, where the front guard screw fastens.

"Should I take enough wood out of the stock at the point of the forward guard screw to make the barrel and action pull down with uniform pressure on the receiver and the barrel? This will eliminate strain on the receiver when securing the barrel to the fore-end.

"Would you advise my not fastening the barrel to the fore-end? This would give me a floating barrel. What effect could I expect from having a floating barrel? I am interested in reducing expense in remodeling but I do not wish to sacrifice accuracy or safety."—E. A. SAVLEY, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Answer: As you describe your bedding situation, you will have a free floating barrel if you tighten your front and rear guard screws and leave off the front barrel band. The two guard screws are adequate to secure the stock to the barrel and action safely.

I have never had much luck with free floating barrels as far as accuracy is concerned, but occasionally one will come along that performs nicely. If you have a range available and plenty of ammunition, I suggest that you try your rifle as it now is bedded.

If you are not inclined to experiment, but want to bed your rifle for best *probable* accuracy, I suggest that you inlet your stock so that the sides of the receiver bear on the wood. Make sure that you have good contact between receiver and wood at the point where the front and rear guard screws draw the receiver into the stock. Check to see that your front and rear guard screw bushings are not so long that your guard screws pull the metal parts down on the bushing rather than on the wood. You should file some off of these bushings to make sure of this, because bushings which are too long are likely to cause poor accuracy. The rifles which I have bedded gave best results when it took fifteen or twenty pounds of force to pull the fore-end tip away from the barrel. I have found it best to leave the barrel free between the receiver and the fore-end tip. That is without a barrel band, of course. If this arrangement fails to give you accuracy, try a barrel band as this will sometimes do the trick. While you are trying to get your best bedding, shims of paper are very handy for building up low places in your stock.—E. B.

HANDICAPPED IN OFFHAND SHOOTING

"I am in search of a solution to the problem brought about by my physical handicap. My left arm is bent at the elbow at about 135 degrees, and is rigid. I do a lot of four-position shooting; prone, sitting, kneeling, and offhand. I have been able to shoot 197 x 200 over that course but my average is around 187. My average offhand score is 41 x 50. Obviously that position is where I lose most of my points. My left arm is too weak to hold the gun properly. My rifle is a Winchester 52 with a Lyman Super-Targetspot.

"I have considered making a Bull Pup stock and using the 52 barrel on it if I can be sure that it will help me overcome my difficulty. It is my hope that the center of gravity will be shifted rearward from its proximity to my left hand. In this manner I expect to do a greater share of the work with my unimpaired right arm.

"Bear in mind that the elbow joint is nonfunctional, as the bone is continuous throughout the arm. The arm is 5 inches shorter than the right arm. The fingers and wrist are perfectly functional but I cannot shoot left-handed as the fingers fail to reach the trigger.

"Do you think it would be worth my time and effort to build the Bull Pup gun?"—R. D. C., Oakland, Calif.

Answer: Two possibilities exist, one of which should clear up your problem. The expense involved by either will be far less than that required for the conversion of your Winchester 52 to a Bull Pup.

The Bull Pup conversion would move the center of gravity from a point about 8 inches to a point about 4 inches ahead of the trigger. However, the loss, from your viewpoint, will be far greater than the gain. The stock of the Pup forces one's right hand down on the side where its only use can be the pulling of the trigger. In this position the right arm is prevented from offering even a small amount of support to the rifle's weight. Your weaker left arm would then be forced to do all the work and in my opinion you would be in more serious difficulty than at present.

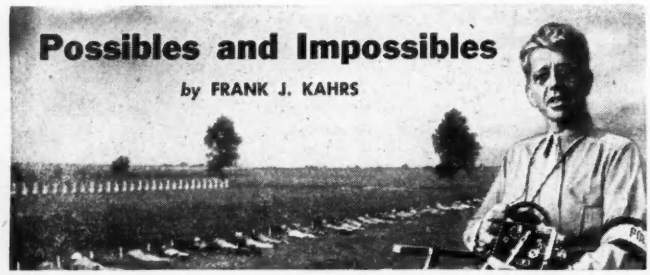
My first suggestion would be for you to try the Army position in your offhand shooting. It certainly will be an inexpensive trial and it

(*Continued on page* 46)

A PAPER FOR PEOPLE WHO SHOOT

Rifle

VOL. 9, NO. 9 • BRIDGEPORT, CONNEC SEPTEMBE



Possibles and Impossibles

by FRANK J. KAHRS

In a recent column I spoke about the space given by the "Portland Oregonian" to rifle shooting competitions out in Oregon. Apparently, the newspapers generally are cooperating with club secretaries in printing stories of competitions and club shoots because I have just received a very interesting letter from a recently returned G. I. from a trick of duty with the Navy in the recent ruckus, and now that he is a civilian again, his perspective on life, after his Navy experience, has broadened considerably. Even to the extent that he mentions that the poor misguided person, who accepted the secretaryship of the League, also deserves a lot of credit.

This chap's home town is Erie, Pennsylvania, and as evidence of the cooperation which the "Erie Dispatch-Herald" gives to rifle shooting up there, he encloses a full column with standing and scores of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Rifle League. Besides, there is a three column picture of the district rifle champions.

Now, it is not my purpose to tell you the story of the match itself, but to let readers of the column know that this important matter of publicity for your League or club activities in the local newspapers can be had by going after the editor or the sports editor or someone on the paper who can be sold on the idea that what is good news for the "Portland Oregonian" and the "Erie Dispatch-Herald" would be good news for him to run.

The sports editor of the "Erie Dispatch-Herald" is a friend of rifle shooting and we take off our hat to him!

* * *

A short note received the other day from an old friend, who was in the service, throws some light on the keeping qualities of smokeless ammunition.

Our friend is a medico up in Muskegon, Michigan, and he says that he has some "Targetmaster" of lot AAAA, which spent 18 months with him at Milne Bay, New Guinea, and various other places of poor climatic conditions. He used some in the Peach Blossom Matches at Stevensville, Michigan, in May in his 37 Remington and it still made fine groups. He made his Master's rating in 1942 firing that combination, but he says he hardly expected that ammunition to be so good after so long and such poor storage conditions.

Well, neither did we, for that matter, but perhaps he was lucky or maybe the stuff will really keep under tough conditions, and if it does, then we have nothing to worry about, or do we?

Thanks, Doc, for the tip!

* * *

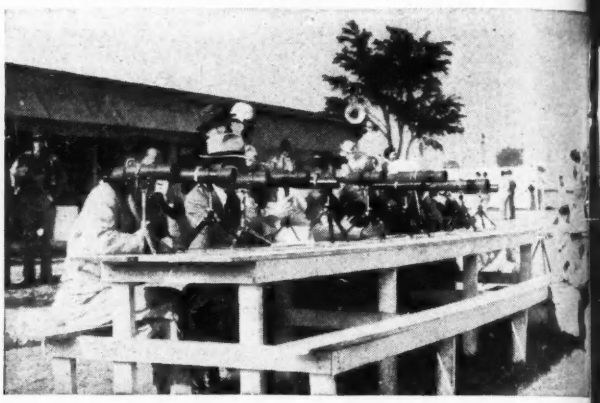
Many letters are received by me from returning G. I.'s and I wish I could print most of them because they are very interesting indeed. However, that being out of the question, we do the next best thing and try to select some unusually interesting items.

I had one the other day from a chap in Oregon who put in some time as an engineer gunner on a B-24 down under in Australia and New Guinea during the war. He says he wished many a time for a 22 and some shells because there was quite a bit of game to shoot, but all they had was some 50 caliber stuff and some 45 revolver ammunition besides an old 45 Martini carbine which he picked up in Sydney.

He stated that he had to tell the desk sergeant at the police station that he had a chance to "have a go" at the croco and kangaroo before the sarge would give him a permit to buy the gun and shells.

There was one thing about the old gun. She would stop a kangaroo cold with one shot placed anywhere which was more than the 30 carbine would do, but when a duck or bush turkey was hit with this load, there wasn't much left to eat.

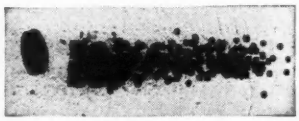
OLD CAMP PERRY MEMORIES



Anyone who has ever attended the National Matches at Camp Perry will remember the scene above . . . the scope kibitzers who all seemed to you to be watching *your* target. You could *feel* them sneer when you dropped out of the 10 ring! And do you remember those fishtail breezes that cost you so many X's? And the old bulletin board at the Remington shack on Commercial Row, with the results of the late matches posted. (And remember how often the notation "used a Model 37 and Palma Kleanbore or Targetmaster" was made beside the winner's name!) Remember the 1000 yard epics on the big bore range . . . studying the mirage till time ran short . . . the arguments about the "bank" hold when the light was bad? Great Days they were . . . and thanks to a lot of you Joes, they're back again!

WHAT D'YA SHOOT?

Around the target ranges, you're beginning again to hear talk about towering pheasants . . . about big bucks with record racks . . . about the thrill of a flock of mallards swinging over your decoys.

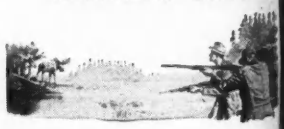


So—it's timely to remind you belly shooters and bobbing target fans that Remington makes game loads of all kinds that are as outstanding as its target ammunition.

For big game, two things count in a cartridge—accuracy and controlled bullet expansion. Remington ammo you *know* is accurate; as for expansion, look at that soft point Core-Lokt bullet above!

For waterfowl, upland game and rabbits, you want a dependable shot shell with the right amount of power. You get this with long range Remington Express loads and with Remington Shur Shot field loads.

FOR "LIVE" TARGET SHOOTERS ONLY



With hunting seasons approaching, a lot of paper target punchers are getting ready to put their skill to its greatest test . . . in the field, against wild game in its natural element.

If you need a new shotgun or big game rifle, Remington has firearms and ammunition that meet the requirements of the most exacting "gun bug." Speed of action takes on new importance when you're in the field, and Remington offers you not only its justly famous autoloaders, the Model 11 and the Sportsman shotguns and the Model 81 big game rifle, but also fast and smooth pump action firearms, the Model 31 shotgun and the Model 141 big game rifle. Write for details.

IF IT'S REMINGTON, IT'S RIGHT!

Targetmaster, Sportsman, Palma, and Kleanbore are Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.; Core-Lokt is a trademark of Remington Arms Company, Inc.

Remington News

SEPTEMBER, 1946

First Class Reading Matter for Rifle Shooters

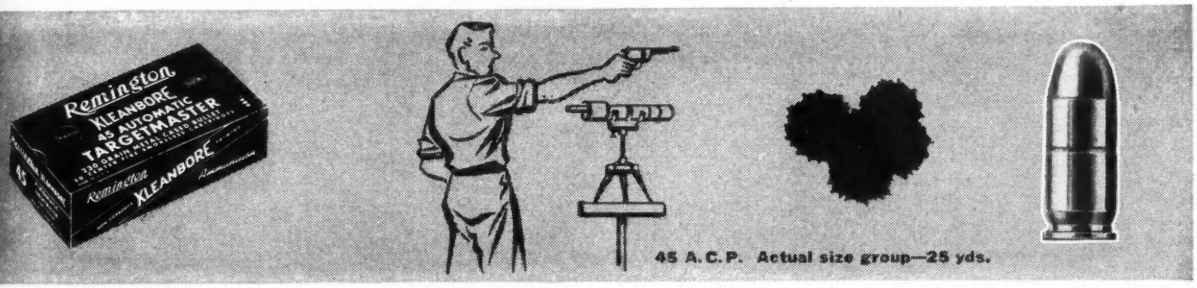
WEATHER:
HOT LIKE "TARGETMASTER" AMMO

REMINGTON PISTOL AMMUNITION "HOT" AT 1946 TOURNAMENTS

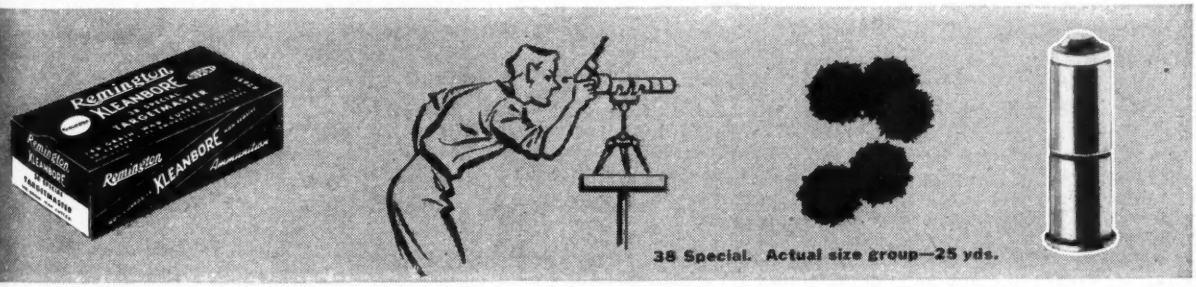
The groups shown below were fired from a machine rest with Remington Targetmaster ammunition picked at random from the production line. Tests such as these for accuracy in grouping are part of the day-in and day-out quality control of Targetmaster ammunition.

Remington Targetmaster is tailored for match shoosting by paying meticulous attention to each step from the casting of the bullet slug to final packing. The results of this care are evidenced both in the ballistic control laboratory and on the firing line . . . and the latest news from these two sources is that the Remington Targetmaster line of pistol ammo is proving to be extremely accurate in target shooting competition.

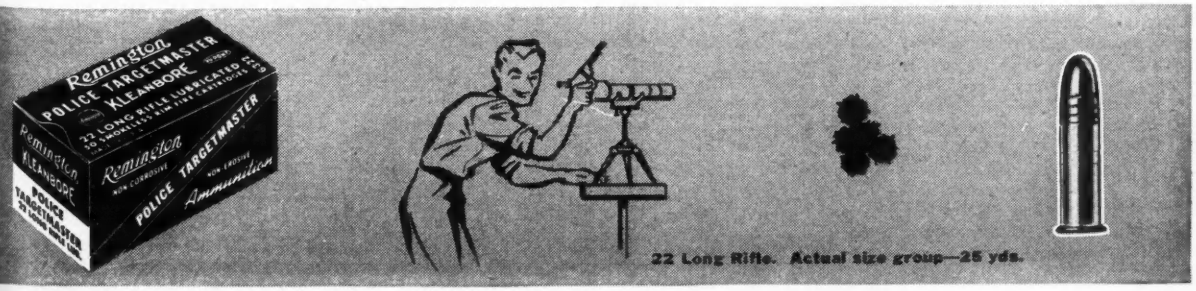
No ammunition will give you high scores if your holding and squeezing are off, but when you're "right" and your ammunition is right, you can't be beat. Remember, it was shooters themselves who coined the familiar saying, "IF IT'S REMINGTON, IT'S RIGHT."



45 A.C.P. Actual size group—25 yds.



38 Special. Actual size group—25 yds.



22 Long Rifle. Actual size group—25 yds.

(*Continued from page 43*)

might be the answer. Your left arm has borne a severe strain as you have attempted to support most of the rifle's weight on the well-extended left hand. The Army has taught a method where the rifle is supported mainly by the right hand and arm, while the left is used only for steadying purposes. In this position the palm of the right hand is applied to the top, rather than the side, of the small of the stock. You should carry the idea to the extreme. Allow the hand to grip the stock in such a way that only the tip of the finger reaches the trigger. The hand then grips the small of the stock from above and pulls it up and to the rear. The right elbow will be somewhat above the level of the shoulder. As a trial of proper position, the rifle is supported so that the left hand may be removed from its steadying position without causing the rifle to fall.

I have seen hundreds of men successfully use this method after a little practice. It would seem to be well suited for the person wishing to take advantage of a right arm whose strength greatly exceeds that of his left.

The second method involves slight work and expense but it can be made to perform beautifully. I would plan to fire left handed with normal NRA position, making use of a new, homemade trigger. A recess can be cut into the left side of the stock where your trigger finger falls. From the description of your left arm, this point should be about 5 inches to the rear of the factory trigger. The finger would curve around the new trigger and into a suitable opening large enough to permit the necessary movement. Drilling and shaping two holes completely through the stock will probably be the most satisfactory system. The rearmost opening will be curved to accommodate the left thumb.

A new trigger could be linked to the old in several ways. Probably the simplest would be by the use of a metal strip passing along the left side of the stock and ending in a "ring-type" trigger. The forward end should have a pivotal joint connecting it with the left end of a small lever arm about 2 inches in length. This lever arm would pass through the factory trigger guard, rest against the trigger face, and terminate in a pivotal joint on a fixed fulcrum. The fulcrum would be a socket or hinge joint on the side of a metal strip. The strip would be snapped into place on the right side of the trigger guard. Spring steel would hold it in position by gripping the fore and aft inside curves of the guard. The springiness of the snap fit should probably be restricted to the rear contact alone, because limberness in front might cause a spongy trigger pull.

This simple left-hand adaptor could be pulled from the rifle in an instant. The gun would then be ready for right-hand shooting in the other three positions.

One other necessity will be an L-shaped rest, positioned about one and one-half inches ahead of the trigger ring. This wood or metal rest can be held by a pin or thread fit to the stock about one-half inch below the trigger bar when it is horizontal and in use. A pin or thread fit would facilitate quick removal when converting from left- to right-hand use of the rifle.—J. S. R.

RECOIL PROBLEMS

"I am trying to find the most powerful sporting rifle weighing between seven and one-fourth pounds and eight pounds, and having *no* greater recoil than the U. S. Rifle, Cal. .30 M1, firing the M2 cartridge. My sensitiveness to recoil results from a head wound received in combat. Since then, the recoil of the M1903 rifle firing M2 ammunition has been intolerable while the same ammunition in the M1 Garand rifle has caused no ill effect. I have been unable to obtain data on relative recoil of different sporting firearms.

"I contemplate the hunting of medium and large game. For that reason a rifle of maximum power combined with minimum recoil is indicated. I am especially interested in the M99 Savage, Cal. .300, or a .257 Roberts which is capable of handling a 125 grain bullet at 2900 f.s.

"Any data on relative weight, caliber, and recoil of representative rifles will be greatly appreciated."—D. R. M., Albuquerque, N. M.

Answer: The recoil bugaboo is a simple thing in itself, and depends on Newton's law of motion. "For every action there is an equal, opposite, and instantaneous reaction." However, the manner in which that "reaction" is administered to the shooter's anatomy causes many questions, and in some cases, red-hot arguments.

Roughly, if the bullet or powder weight, or the muzzle velocity is increased, the "kick" will increase. If the weight of the rifle, or recoiling weight, is increased, the "kick" will decrease.

To obtain a reasonably close mathematical (as distinguished from physiological) approximation of recoil energy, these facts may be combined into a formula that also allows for the extremely high average of powder gas muzzle velocity, which by computation, is known to be in the neighborhood of 4,700 feet per second. When using the formula remember that to determine the mass you divide the weight of an object by 32.2, (or the acceleration of gravity). Remember also that when the weight of the rifle is in pounds it must be converted to weight in grains by: (pounds x 7000 = grains). This conversion need only be done in the first formula since the result of the second formula will be in foot-pounds of energy.

Mp = Mass of projectile.
Mg = Mass of gas.
Up = Velocity of projectile (muzzle).
Ug = Velocity of gas (muzzle).
m = Mass of recoiling parts.
u = Velocity of recoiling parts.
E = Recoil energy of rifle.

$$u = \frac{Mp\ Up + 4700\ Mg}{m}$$

$$E = \frac{m\ u^2}{2}$$

In the table below I have included a varied selection of calibers, weights of rifle, bullets, charges, and velocities. The recoil velocity in feet per second and the recoil energy in foot pounds as given by the above formulae is listed for each combination of variables.

In this table appears the recoil of your M1 service rifle with both the M2 Ball and the M2 armor-piercing ammunition. If you recall which you were using when the rifle gave you a tolerable impact, you might then be able to use these figures as a more accurate guide. The weight of the rifle in the case of the M1, is a total of the rifle, sling, clip, and seven rounds. Neither the weight of the combination tool which might be in the butt recess, or the weight of the bayonet, was considered. Another factor which is capable of greatly affecting the result, is the weight of the service rifle stock. I believe you will find that their weights vary over a range of 1.5 pounds.

In the case of the Savage M99, I decided to pick an arbitrary figure of 7.5 pounds because you did not mention such equipment as sling and telescopic sights. Of course the additional weight resulting from such paraphernalia will reduce the recoil effect. For comparison with an extreme I also included the Featherweight Savage which weighs only 6.75 pounds.

These figures must be used with caution, because many other variables enter the picture. It is quite possible to select from a choice of rifles one having fewer foot-pounds of recoil energy, and yet be disappointed because the result, based on physical pain and firing fatigue, would indicate an undesirable decision. Generally, the pain or fatigue involved is increased as the time factor decreases, recoil energy remaining constant. For an exaggerated example: fifteen foot-pounds of recoil energy can be delivered to the shooter in the form of a steady, gentle push when the time factor is great, or delivered in such a way to cause a sharp, painful blow, providing that the time of delivery is decreased sufficiently.

Such aids as rubber recoil pads, shoulder pads of a shooting coat, and layers of fat tend to cushion much of the recoil by spreading the energy over a longer period of time.

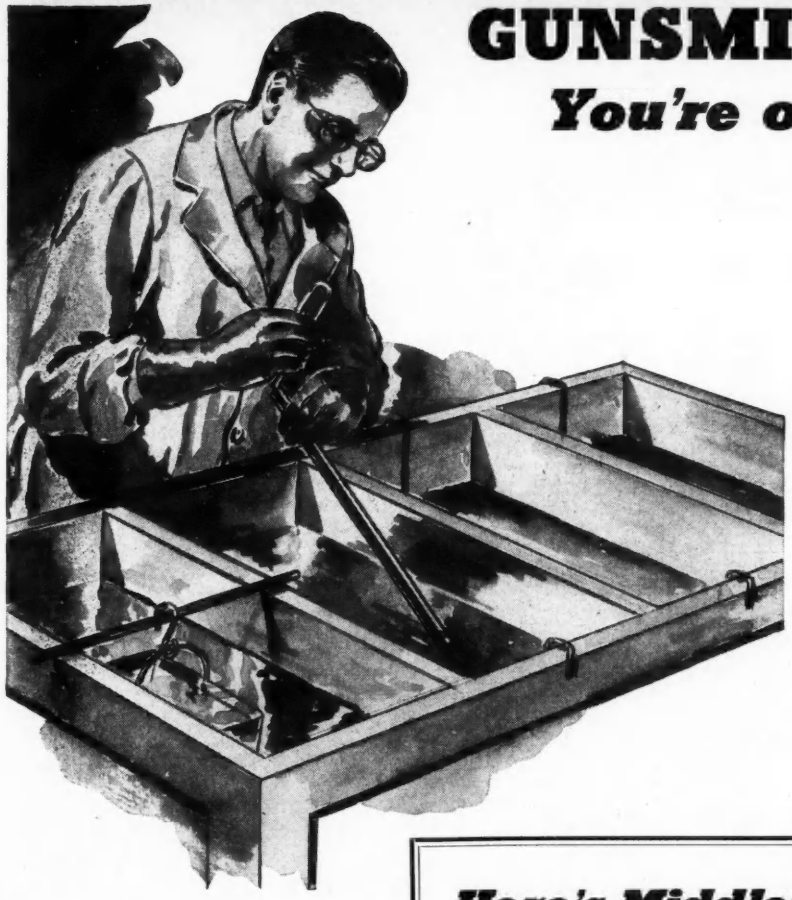
I suspect the presence of other variables which refuse to be confined by the bonds of formulas. Actual shock from the loud noise and muzzle blast is one variable which is difficult to measure. I know that it exists and adds to the pain affiliated with the shooting of heavier firearms. After coaching a shooter on a big-bore range, where for an entire day I have taken position at the side of the rifle, it is obvious to me that blast and noise alone are a source of considerable fatigue.

Man himself is perhaps the greatest variable of all. A heavy-set individual has great inertia which lessens the shoulder's ability to

(*Continued on page 48*)

Table for determining approximate recoil energy

Rifle	Rifle Weight	Powder Charge	Bullet Weight	Bullet Muzzle Velocity	Recoil Velocity	Recoil Energy
Savage 99, .303	6.75 lbs.	27 gr.	190 gr.	2,000 f.s.	10.67 f.s.	11.96 ft. lbs.
" .250–3000	7.5 "	38 "	87 "	3,000 "	8.38 "	8.20 " "
" .250–3000	7.5 "	35 "	100 "	2,790 "	9.96 "	11.65 " "
" .300	7.5 "	41 "	150 "	2,660 "	11.31 "	14.92 " "
" .300	7.5 "	34 "	180 "	2,380 "	11.22 "	14.75 " "
Winchester 70, .257	8.5 "	38 "	100 "	2,860 "	7.82 "	9.98 " "
" " .257	8.5 "	44 "	125 "	2,900 "	9.58 "	11.65 " "
" " .270	8.5 "	52 "	130 "	3,120 "	10.95 "	22.63 " "
Springfield, .30–'06	9.5 "	50 "	150 " M2 Ball	2,800 "	10.00 "	14.80 " "
" "	9.5 "	53 "	168.5 " M2 A.P.	2,770 "	10.78 "	17.15 " "
Garand M1 .30–'06	10.5 "	50 "	150 " M2 Ball	2,800 "	8.92 "	12.95 " "
" " "	10.5 "	53 "	168.5 " M2 A.P.	2,770 "	9.58 "	15.00 " "
Win. 52 Bull .22	14.12 "	2.4 "	40 "	1,100 "	.559 "	.688 " "



GUNSMITHS

You're on your own!

Because of the greatly increased demands our commercial finishing work is making on us, we are forced to retire from the specialized field of gun refinishing. This development leaves many loyal gunsmiths, who have been using our unequalled Du-Lite Finish and services, without a dependable means for accomplishing their gun refinishing.

✦

With this complete Du-Lite Gun Refinishing installation you can do all your refinishing work right in your own shop. The materials included in the offer will refinish a minimum of fifty guns; additional salts and other materials will be supplied you promptly on your order at low cost.

This installation will give you faster service at a lower cost, puting money in your pocket with every gun you refinish.

Middletown will stand by this offer to assure America's gunsmiths of the availability of Du-Lite Black Oxide finish for their work. Order your installation at once so that you can continue to give your customers uninterrupted Du-Lite refinishing.

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DO IT YOURSELF!

DU-LITE GUN REFINISHING INSTALLATION

4 tanks—40″ x 8″ x 10″ Deep, complete with the necessary thermometer and gas burners.

Cleaning Tank
Hot Rinsing Tank
Du-Lite Processing Tank
Cold Rinsing Tank

Middletown Metal Finishing Company guarantees that you can operate this unequalled gun refinishing process right in your own shop after brief study of the simple directions and instructions accompanying the shipment.

We will furnish you sufficient of the following material to process at least fifty guns:

Du-Lite Fused Salts
Du-Lite #29 Cleaner
Du-Lite Proctoil (lubricant)

The Proctoil container may be used as a tank for the application of the lubricant to the black-finished gun parts.

$150 COMPLETE

MIDDLETOWN METAL FINISHING CO., Inc.

MIDDLETOWN
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★ ★ NOTICE TO GUNSMITHS ★ ★

I am now about 3 months behind, and constantly losing ground in spite of my best efforts. With the approach of hunting season, I'm in a hot spot. I simply cannot make enough barrels to go around. Anyone sending in new orders, please be prepared to wait at least 3 months for first deliveries, as I must fill my old orders first.

J. R. BUHMILLER

EUREKA — *RIFLE BARREL MAKER* — MONTANA

ENFIELD OWNERS

Let me modernize that Enfield with my speed action job. Changes bolt to cock on opening, short firing pin fall with heavy mainspring, sleeve built up to eliminate sloppy bolt, military slack removed from trigger, trigger pull short and crisp, with adjustment.

The complete job on your Enfield, Mauser or Springfield—$12.00. Krag job—$10.00.

I must have the complete bolt trigger and receiver assembly for this job. Shipment is most satisfactory by Railway Express.

Customers in 41 states now use and approve of these speed action jobs.

Alter bolt handle on Springfield or Mauser	$ 5.00
Alter Mauser safety for low scope	5.00
Remove Enfield ears, and polish *(Ground by hand, not a precision machine job)*	4.00
Straighten Enfield floor plate	4.00
Shorten Barrel and Crown Muzzle	3.00
Weaver K2.5, coated, cross hair	38.50
Weaver K4, coated lens	44.00
Lee Center Dot, extra	8.00
Weaver U mounts	5.75
Stith mount for 99 Savage—K scope	15.00
Stith Q.E.D. for Model 70 (no mounting charge if I furnish scope and mount)	17.50
Special low bridge type mounts of my own design, custom fitted to your rifle, putting scope in lowest possible position (Will be made up only for customers purchasing their Weaver K scopes from me)	15.00

KENNETH CLARK — **Madera, Calif.**

Phone 390J1

P. S.—My shop will be closed October 5 thru October 25, while I catch up on my bear and deer hunting!

SOUTHPAWS

We can now convert your Mauser or Springfield action to left hand. No cutting or welding of receiver.

$50.00 Complete

Send for details to

SOUTHPAW SERVICE

(A. R. Harmon)

Hatfield — Pennsylvania

FECKER

Astronomical Accuracy

Fully reconverted—ready again to supply the shooting fraternity with traditional FECKER quality in scopes—target, hunting and spotting. *Write for catalog.*

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RIFLE CLUB EMBLEMS HELP BUILD CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Do your club members wear emblems on their jackets or coats? Let them show their pride in the club by sporting our beautifully designed emblems.

We follow your design in embroidered, chenille, flocked felt or regular felt. Send us your sketches for prices.

Emblems
Banners
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Flags

AMERICAN SCHOOL SUPPLY CO.

369 Dodd Street, Dept. A-10
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LEATHERS STAY SOFT & DRY

Stops MOLD and Sunlight AGING

Your boots and other leather articles will give longer service. This is **TOPS** in leather treatments.

At your dealer . . . or write direct . . . ¼pt., 85¢ postpaid.

PROTECTIVE COATINGS, INC.

Box 3985-AR, DETROIT 27, MICH.

Shot Shell Wads

Immediate delivery from stock at a generally reduced price.

⅜" Special Fibre Wad (Felt type)	$3.50
¼" Special Fibre Wad (Felt type)	$2.50
.135" Nitro Card for over powder	$1.50
"B" Card Wad for over shot	$1.25

These wads are guaranteed the best obtainable and to give the utmost ballistic efficiency to hand loads or muzzle loaders.

Alcan Paper Co. WOODRIVER, ILLINOIS

(*Continued from page* 46)

"roll with the punch." The other extreme would be the lightweight boy whose entire body is forced back, resulting in a wider distribution of energy. In my mind it compares with the striking with a hammer, of first a flexible reed and then a rock. The reed bends with slight damage and the heavy rock is chipped under the impact of concentrated energy. Generally though, a heavy man's weight is considered as an advantage because of other more important and obvious factors.

It is conceivable that stock and rifle design can be directed toward relief from recoil for individual physiques and nervous systems. We will have to wait for those refinements until the day when a rifleman has the means whereby he may accurately determine his personal points of vulnerability before selecting a new gun. We are designing a test which we hope will improve on the doubtful parallel between foot-pounds of recoil energy and pain, by showing a more accurate correlation between pain and recoil brisance.—J. S. R.

GUNSMITH TRADE DOPE

Charles J. McConeghy of 2203 Highland Ave., Utica 4, N. Y., tells us that he has entered the gunsmithing business at the above address. Mr. McConeghy was with the Savage Arms Corporation for several years.

☆ ☆ ☆

The Gun Rack, 441 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, Calif., specializes in reblueing and refinishing all types of sporting and military weapons. They also carry a complete line of shooters' accessories. The opening was announced by W. H. "Huck" Gamble.

☆ ☆ ☆

Alliance Gun Exchange, 1190 West State, Route No. 62, Alliance, Ohio. H. E. Michalk, proprietor, has mailed us a price list which includes shotguns, rifles, pistols, ammunition, and miscellaneous merchandise.

☆ ☆ ☆

W. L. Gartman, 12 Richfield Ave., Cranston 10, R. I., formerly with the Johnson Automatics Custom Gun Department, is now in business for himself. Gartman, before entering the Navy, had his own business in Central Texas doing custom stocking and rebuilding of sporting rifles.

☆ ☆ ☆

Bob Reynolds, 2413 West Erwin St., Tyler, Texas, has opened a new gunshop and is tooled up for conversions in practically all calibers as well as other general gunsmithing work. He also is a dealer in sporting goods.

☆ ☆ ☆

O. H. Elliott, 528 Webster St., Traverse City, Michigan, who probably is as familiar as anyone with the .35 Whelen cartridge, is setting up shop again. Later on, when properly tooled for the job, he plans to specialize on .256, .276 and .35 caliber barrels made with eight grooves or three-groove "Elliott Cloverleaf" rifling. Elliott is well known also for his special cartridges and work on single-shot and double rifles.

☆ ☆ ☆

Russel E. Hightower, 211 East Johnson Ave., Trinidad, Colorado, has just announced the opening of his "Firearms Development Company." Hightower has resigned as shop foreman of P. O. Ackley and Company. A specialty will be chambering reamers. He is now making forty-eight variations of reamers, including the Ackley line, and can rechamber for all the cartridges. Building of custom rifles of the finest quality, to the customers' specifications, will be a major item. Reloading custom and wildcat cartridges will be done as reloading components are available.

☆ ☆ ☆

Stolba Gun Repair Service has changed its name to Hawkeye Shooters Supply Company. The address is 1606 Third Street, S. W., Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

THE ARMS CHEST

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

1. Transactions Based on Good Faith: ARMS CHEST transactions are based on good faith and mutual satisfaction. Deliberate misrepresentation, disregard of usual business ethics or the attempt to circumvent these general requirements, when brought to our attention, will result in refusal of further advertising and might result in disbarment from the NRA in the case of members.

2. All Orders Subject to These Conditions: WE reserve the right to edit all copy to conform with our standards and to reject or discontinue any advertisement which we consider undesirable.

3. Who May Advertise: The ARMS CHEST is an open market trading post. Any individual or firm whose advertisement and methods of doing business meet our requirements may advertise their goods or services.

4. Rates: All advertisements must be accompanied by remittance. The rate is 15 cents per word including name and address—minimum charge $2.00.

5. Definite Prices Must Be Stated: A specific price must be stated on all items offered in FOR SALE and SELL or TRADE ads—except that the phrase "write for catalog" may be used when listing merchandise in quantities.

6. Blind Ads Not Acceptable: Box number or blind ads will not be accepted. Give your complete name and address, to insure prompt delivery of all mail or telegraph replies.

7. Firearms for Sale or Trade Must Be Defined: The *condition* of every gun (including essential parts) advertised for sale or trade, *must* be specified according to *NRA standards*, as follows: PERFECT—meaning factory condition; EXCELLENT—meaning new condition, implying negligible amount of use; VERY GOOD—meaning practically new condition, implying little use, with no appreciable bore wear and only minor surface scratches or wear; GOOD—meaning moderate use with some finish worn off, only moderate bore wear, with no pits and nothing worse than a little roughness in the bore; FAIR—meaning no parts missing necessary to use of gun, reasonable wear inside and out, nothing worse than minor pits in steel or stock, gun sufficiently accurate for hunting. POOR—meaning marred appearance and pitted or badly worn bore.

8. Non-Specific Phrases Barred: Phrases such as "highest" or "top prices paid," as well as any other so-called "auction-type" phrases are not acceptable. The terms "fair price paid" or "state price wanted" may be used.

9. "Outlawed" Firearms Defined: The sale of certain firearms is outlawed by Federal law unless handled by a Federally licensed dealer. These include machine or submachine guns; sawed-off rifles and shotguns with barrels of less than 18" and Mauser and Luger auto pistols *with holster stocks.*

10. Requesting Privilege of Examination: We *insist* that purchasers desirous of examining merchandise before acceptance request shipment by express C. O. D. with examination privilege. This procedure permits the purchaser to inspect the merchandise *in local express office* and authorizes the express company to return unsatisfactory merchandise at shipper's expense.

11. How to Count Numerals, Etc.: Groups of figures are counted as one word (example: .30-30, 250-3000, $150.00, $1.50). (Abbreviations consisting of initials or single characters likewise are counted as one word (example: W. H. Smith; H. B., meaning heavy barrel; HP., meaning highpower). Hyphenated words are counted as two words (examples: 20-gauge, pearl-handled, no-slip).

12. Responsibility for Illegible Copy: Type or print advertisements plainly, as we can not be responsible for errors due to illegible writing.

13. Closing date: All advertisements must be received by not later than the 1st of the month preceding date of issue. (Example: the 1st of September for the October issue. Ads *received* after the 1st of September, *and not later than the 1st of October* will be inserted in the November issue.)

FOR SALE

NEW LIST OF MUZZLE LOADING RIFLES. Also cap and ball revolvers for shooting. 3¢ stamp please. Kimball Arms Company, Woburn, Mass. tf

AMMUNITION—.45-70-500 SMOKELESS, $1.74 per box. $8.50 per hundred. G.I. Rubber slipon type recoil pads 90¢ each. Dept. R. Bolin's Gun Shop, 9 Grand St., South Amboy, New Jersey. tf

20 PAGE CATALOG, LISTING ANTIQUE FIREarms, edged weapons, cartridges, parts, books and collectors items for 15¢. H. A. Brand, 1008 Ingalls Bldg, Cincinnati 2, Ohio. 7-47

THE REVOLVER TIMING RECORD—A 10 INCH RCA-Victor phonograph record. Practice timed and rapid fire anywhere, BY YOURSELF. Nothing to watch—just LISTEN. For "dry" shooting, basement and outdoor ranges. One side 10 second timing, other side 20 second timing. Plays on any phonograph, $1.50 postpaid. The Original Sight Exchange, Box J, Paoli, Penna. 2-47

NOISE STOPPING SOFT WAXEN SLEEP-RITE earstoppers make better shooting, better sleeping, set 10¢. Free literature. Raymond Dow, 2922 164th St., Flushing 6, N. Y. tf

CASWELL TARGET CARRIERS GIVE THE shooter every possible point because they hold the target steady and require no exertion to operate. Fully equipped with speedy ball-bearing pulley wheels and target holders for every type of indoor paper rifle or pistol targets. Caswell Target Carriers, Anoka, Minnesota. tf

USE THE NEW GAS PROOF GUN WAD FOR mild recoil, close even pattern, unusually long range, $4.00 per M, packed in 1000 lots 500-3/4", 250-1/4 C, 250 thin C. Send remittance. E. G. Snyder, Rt. #2, Reading, Penna. tf

AMMUNITION—NEW AND USED SHOTGUNS, Rifles, Handarms. List 10¢. Dept N.R. Rudolph's, Atchison, Kansas. 12-46

NEW CARTRIDGE LIST #10 FOR THE COLlector. It contains many new and rare items. Send 10¢ coin or stamps. Carl Metzger, 2305 Canton St., Dallas 1, Texas. 9-46

ALWAYS A GOOD STOCK OF COLLECTORS Arms and Visitors always welcome. House of Guns, 34 Alpine Place, Kearny, N. J. 2-47

RAISE TURKEYS THE NEW WAY. WRITE FOR free information explaining how to make up to $3000 in your own backyard. Address National Turkey Institute, Dept. 251, Columbus, Kansas. 10-46

ACE, PERFECT INSIDE, EXCELLENT OUT, $65.00. Match Target Woodsman, perfect, $65.00. B. R. Gardner, Salyersville, Kentucky.

EMPTY SHOTGUN SHELLS $3.50 PER THOUsand. Large gun list 10¢. Geo. Brullesauer, 3957A Castleman, St. Louis 10, Missouri. 12-46

30-06 F.A. ARSENAL, 1935 CARTRIDGES, FULL patch, $7.50 per 100. 30-06 Winchester, pointed, full patch, staynless, non-mercuric, cartridges, $10.00 per 100. .38 Special wadcutters reloads, $3.50 per 100. 303 British metal point Winchester cartridges late issue, $10.00 per 100. 351 Remington soft point, S.L. cartridges, $7.50 per 100. 25-35 rifle cartridges, Kleanbore, soft point, $7.50 per 100. .38 caliber Rim Fire revolver cartridges, $2.00 per 100. 45-70 blank cartridges, Winchester make, center fire, $4.00 per 100. 270 Winchester soft point cartridges, Kleanbore, by Remington 150 grain factory loads, $12.50 per 100. .35 Remington soft point, Kleanbore cartridges, $10.00 per 100. Forward money order. No C.O.D. shipments. Public Sport Shops, Dept R75, 13 South 16th Street, Philadelphia, Penna.

NEW GUN-BUYING PROBLEMS SOLVED WITH the new 2nd annual edition of "The Gun Digest," America's Greatest Gun Book. The largest, most complete, reliable, authentic volume on gun lore ever published. Every current U. S. rifle, shotgun, handfun fully described, brilliantly illustrated. 164 pages! 25 sections! 750 illustrations! Answers every question about guns, helps you select new guns. Only $1.25 ($1.50 in Canada). Send $1.25 extra for twin edition of "Fishing Tackle Digest". Klein's Sporting Goods, 506 E South Halsted, Chicago 7.

INVENTORS: WRITE FOR FREE BOOKLET explaining how you may secure greatest profit from your hunting, fishing or other sports inventions, patented or unpatented. Institute of American Inventors, Dept. 131, 1926 Eye St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C. tf

REVOLVERS, MINERALS, STAMPS, COINS, glass, Indian relics, catalog 5¢. Cowboy Lemly, Las Cruces, New Mexico. tf

ILLUSTRATED 172 PAGE CATALOG OF ANtique firearms and edged weapons 50¢. Robert Abels, 860 Lexington Ave., New York 21, New York. 1-47

ELK-DEER HUNTERS: THIS YEAR SHOOT cow, bull, doe or buck. Few reservations left. October 12-November 24. Leave family at lodge while you're packed into hunting camp. $10.00 day includes everything. Troy Carr, Sun Valley Ranch, Grand Lake, Colorado. 9-46

PACIFIC DIES—.257, .250-3000, 30-30 HORNET, $15.00 per set. Ratliff, Hillyard, Washington. 9-46

ASIAC BUFFALO HORN TIPS TWO FOR $3.00. Mannlicher type two for $1.00. India stag types for gun racks or knife handles $5.50 dozen. R. Vail, Warwick, N. Y. 10-46

1"X1" TARGET PASTERS, 2 ROLLS 35¢, 5/8"X5/8" Target pasters, 2 rolls 25¢, black or white. In dozen lots postage free. Leo Babchin, Dealer in Police Supplies, P. O. Box 215, West New York. N. J. 9-46

8MM. BIG GAME AMMUNITION FOR MAUSER rifles. Safe, hard-hitting. Thousands sold last year. Reserve yours NOW! Ratliff, Hillyard, Washington. 9-46

ANTIQUE AND OBSOLETE FIREARMS LIST 25¢ refunded first order. William F. Flynn, 2314 Van Brunt Blvd., Kansas City 1, Missouri. 10-46

FECKER 1 1/8"X10 EXCELLENT $55.00. WEAVER 330 B mounts Springfield very good $20.00. Dumore #14 toolpost grinder complete excellent $30.00. Norman Joseph, 536 Grove, Far Rockaway, N. Y.

PARKER D.H.E., 12 GA. 30" M&F PISTOL GRIP stock. Double triggers. Made in Meriden. Recent Ilion factory cleaning and refinishing job. Perfect in, excellent out, canvas case, 100 shells, $230.00. Dr. R. J. Ackart, 111 Broadway, Carney's Point, New Jersey.

L. C. SMITH, PREMIER GRADE, 12, 32", EJECtor, chambered for 3", straight grip, 1 1/2x2 1/2x14 excellent, sells $1100.00, price $550.00. Also, J. P. Sauer, 20 ga. 26", F&M, 1 1/2x2 1/2x14 with cheekpiece. New Gun. Price $250.00. Frank Pugliese, 1757 So. Broad St., Trenton, N. J.

COLT .38 CALIBER REVOLVER HAMMERS FOR Colt DA-Navy model 1901-1905 good condition, $1.50 each. .45 cal. Colt automatic pistol magazines, good condition, $1.75 each. Forward money order. No C.O.D. shipments. Public Sport Shops, Dept. R75, 13 So. 16th St., Philadelphia, Penna.

R. S. V. P.

May we ask your cooperation?

Obviously an ad in the Arms Chest does not carry quite the formal obligations of an engraved social invitation!

But nonetheless, when a member places an ad in this section he should accept the implied responsibility of giving a prompt and courteous reply to all those fellow members who have, in good faith, offered their money or cherished belongings to fulfill the advertiser's more urgent needs.

Sure, it takes time and postage! But aren't you just a wee bit offended if an advertiser neglects *your* offer?

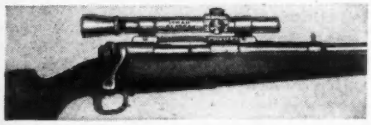
Final closing date is September 1st for all classified copy to appear in the October issue. See complete instructions above.

Williams

QUICK-DETACHABLE SCOPE MOUNT

(Patent No. 2396404)

★ *INSTANTLY detachable WITHOUT TOOLS!*



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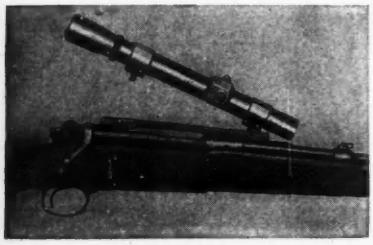
On Model 70 Winchester



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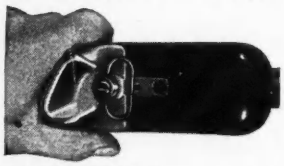

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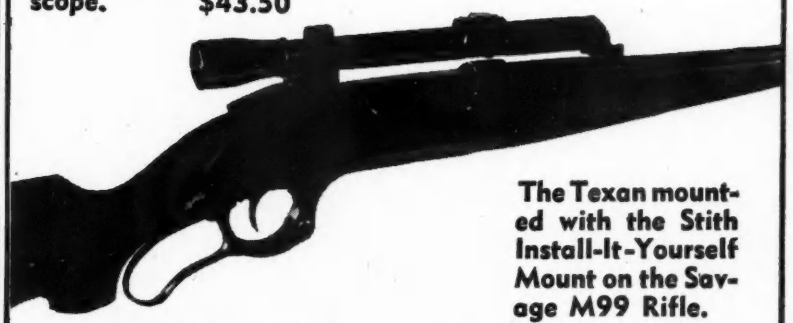

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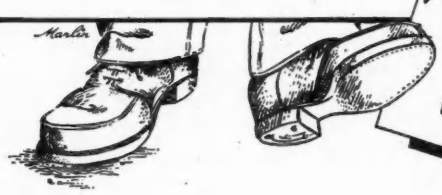

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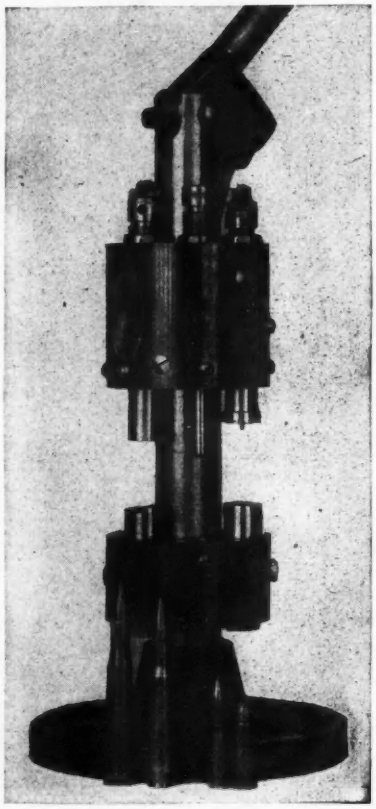

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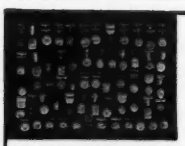

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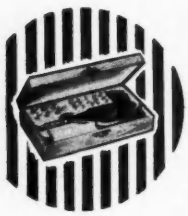

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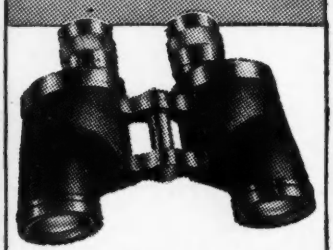

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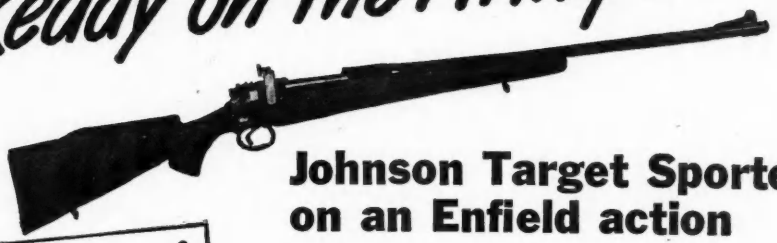

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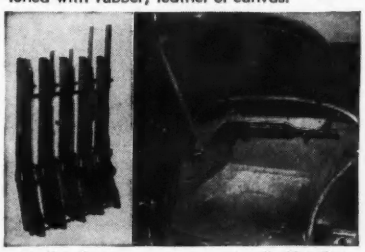

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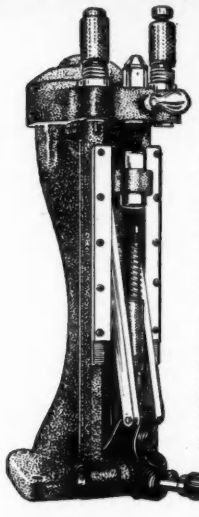

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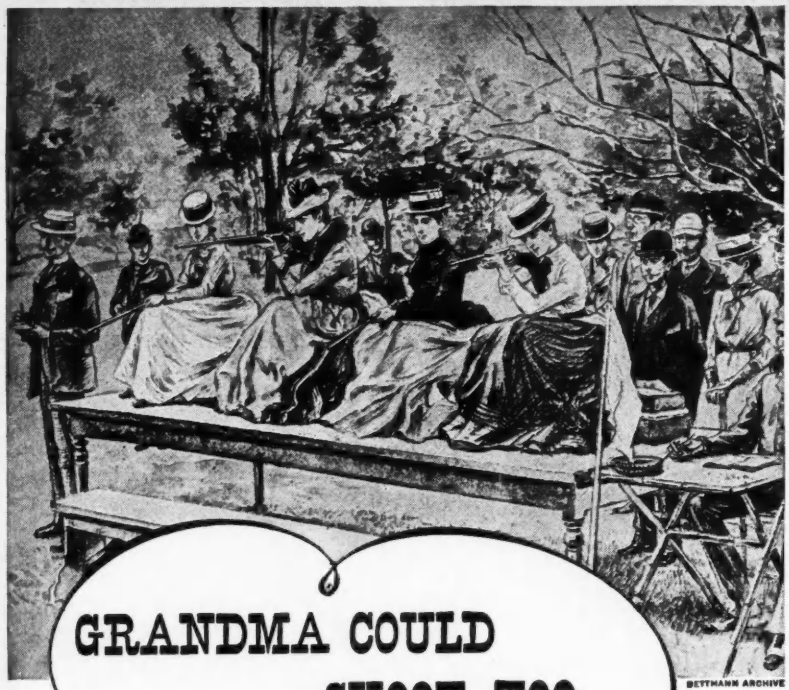

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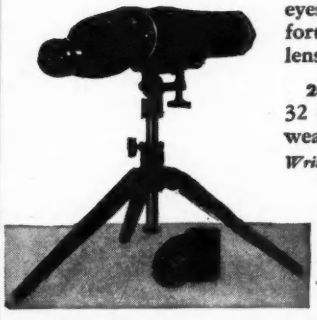

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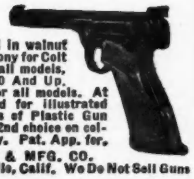

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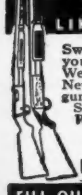

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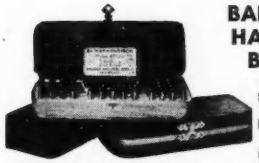

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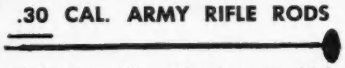

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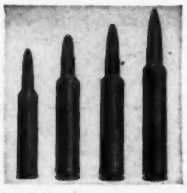

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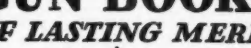

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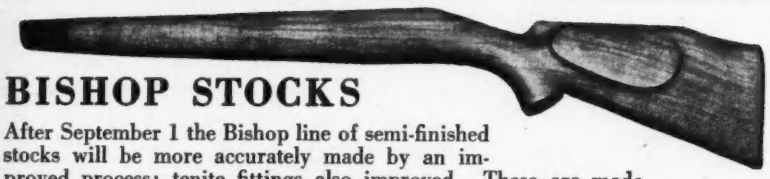

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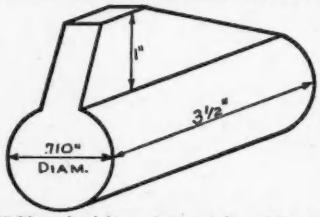

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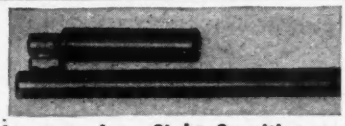

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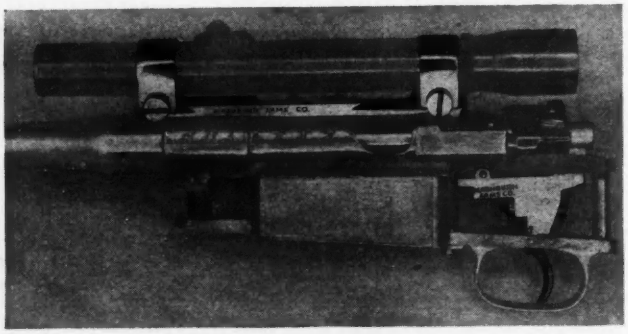

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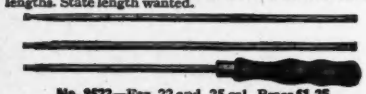

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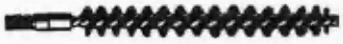

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As soon as stocks of ammunition permit I will test your rifle in my 100-yard tunnel and mate it with a lot which will bring out its best performance. Groups fired will be returned with the rifle—become a permanent record of its performance.

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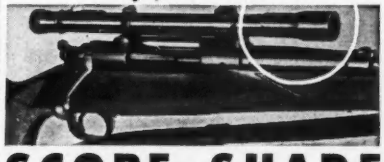

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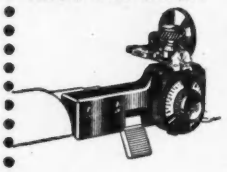

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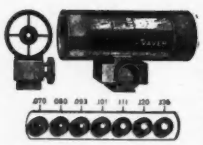

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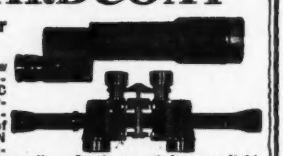

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ENFIELD 30-06 24" CUSTOM STOCK CHECKered, cock on opening, perfect. Weaver K2.5 Redfield Jr., $150.00. C. E. Spurrier, Green, Kansas.

PACIFIC 9MM. LUGER DIES, H&G mould $20.00. R. A. Marshall, 866 S. East Street, Jacksonville, Illinois.

ANTIQUE FIREARMS CATALOG FEATURING the Price, Waid and other collections of Kentuckies, Militaries, Colts and other handguns and accessories 25¢. T. J. Cooper, Port Royal, Penna. 2-47

NEW PACIFIC LOADING TOOLS FOR .38 SPECial $22.50 complete, Super frame $32.50 complete. K4 Weaver scopes $44.00 coated. K2.5 Weaver scopes $38.50 coated. Johnston & Chapman Arms Company, Richmond 22, Virginia.

.22 HB TARGET RIFLE BY ERIC JOHNSON. Winchester 52 speed action. Beautiful birds-eye maple, Beavertail stock, new condition. Wt. 11½ lbs. 17A front, 48 rear, blocks, $130.00. 10" S&W Straight-line .22 target, near perfect, $55.00. Hi-Standard model B, 2 magazines as new, $35.00. .38 Colt auto, pocket model, bluing worn, good $30.00. 10X shooting coat, size 42, as new, $8.00. Russell G Smith, Garland, Penna.

HUNTERS ATTENTION! SEND 10¢ IN COIN for our latest and subsequent lists of rifles, shotguns, handguns, etc. Farmers & Traders Exchange, Chittenango, New York.

CROWN GRADE L. C. SMITH 12-30" F&F straight stock, single triggers automatic ejectors, very good $250.00. Nickel plated 44 Smith-Wesson special 6½ shells, excellent $70.00. Examination privilege. Life member. C. W. Cavaness, 2214 Broadway, Parsons, Kansas.

ZEISS ZIELVIER, 4X, WINDAGE MOUNTS, NO bases, optically perfect, bluing worn, $60.00. 3 barrel, hammerless, 28", Krupp Fluid steel, American manufactured, 2¾", 12 & 12, 32-40 under, cases, dent removed shotgun, otherwise excellent in, very good out, $148.00. L. C. Smith, hammerless, engraved, 12 ga. 2¾", steel; 28" cylinder & imp. cyl.; 30" full full; wood good, otherwise excellent, $80.00. Double rifle, 11½mm. hammerless, engraved, American cases available, mould, fair, $68.00. Belding Mull sporter 30-06, 3X scope, peep, excellent out, poor in, $90.00. Norton Bowler, Warren, Penna.

9MM. LUGER 4" BARREL, EXCELLENT IN, perfect out, holster, $65.00. Model 1873 Winchester .44 WCF very good out, good in $25.00, US revolver Co. 5 sht .32 SW revolver, fair in, good out, $7.00. Wm. Muir model 1861, .58 caliber musket, good, $22.00. Model 1866 Springfield, good $15.00, Ward Burton, model 1871, good $27.50, Charleville, model 1763, good $50.00, Lee Firearms .44rf SS rotating barrel rifle, excellent out, fair in $29.50, Ariska 7.7 model 99, very good $20.00. RARE Green Oval bore, underhammer percussion rifle, very good $35.00. Whitneyville, Plymouth .69 musketoon, very good, except rear sight missing, $22.50. Terms cash with order, 3 day inspection period. R. L. Greiser, 228 Main St., Green Bay, Wisconsin.

ATTENTION SOUTHWESTERN SHOOTERS—New Firearms in Stock. .300 Savage 99EG. Stith mounted K2.5, lens covers, $126.25. Savage Lightweight 12 gauge automatic, M745, 28" modified, $80.95. Springfield M84, $14.75. Winchester M72, $23.95. Remington M11, 12 gauge $85.45. Remington M31, 12 gauge $70.95. Remington M511P, $17.85. Stevens M87, $24.45. DUPONT POWDERS, rifle $1.60; pistol, shotgun #4350, $1.00 cannister. Above F.O.B. Prescott. Following prepaid: Weaver K2.5, $34.50; K4, $44.00; mounts $5.75; Alaskans $50.00. UNERTLS complete with mounts, 4X smallgame, $31.50; 6X, 1" target, $46.50; 1¼", 10X $66.50. FECKER SCOPES, precision mounts, bases ¾", 6x or 8x, $45.00; 1⅛", 8x or 10x, $60.00; 1½", 10x or 12½x $85.00. Tri-Pak Rods—adjustable shotgun, jointed rifle, $1.25; pistol rods, 75¢. Mitchell shooting glasses; Argus spotting scopes; Stith & Redfield mounts. EDWARDS 6X ATTACHMENTS, K2.5 & Alaskan, $16.00. Fasig bullet pullers, $12.50. B&M Staynless one piece rods, $2.50; visible measures; $10.00. Pacific measures, $5.50. Pachmayr pads, $3.00. Niedner checkered buttplates, $2.00. SPEER .22 BULLETS, 40, 45, 50, & 55 grain S.P. @ $2.25 per 100. Should have complete Sisk line and Speer in .25 & .30 now. Expect Speer bullets in .270, 7mm. & 8mm. in September. Jim Wilkinson, 211 South Pleasant, Prescott, Arizona.

PUBLICATION OF THE SHOOTING NEWS HAS been delayed by newsprint shortage. Address inquiries to Charles Davis, Editor, 605 West Cumberland St., Philadelphia 33, Penna.

SELL or TRADE

ITHACA #5, TRAP 12 GAUGE, VENTILATED rib, good $225.00 or a high grade double. J. I. Lytle, 103 West Main, Enid, Oklahoma.

ITHACA M37, 12 PUMP, NEW $80.00. SAVAGE M99 .22 H.P. ammo. excellent $62.00. Winchester M63 perfect, extras $65.00. Wanted Winchester 28-.410 pumps. Tilford Nelson, Arlington, South Dakota.

44 TRIPLELOCK. MAG. GRIPS 5" BARREL EXcellent $75.00. Want 54 Winchester 30-06 or 30-30. Earl G. Gray, Rt. #1, Box 269, Saugus, California.

WINCHESTER MODEL 70, .30-'06, NEW $135.00. Remington automatics; sportsman 12, new, $100.00. M11, 20 ribbed, perfect $105.00. 12" oscillating fan, DC, excellent, $21.00. $5.00 deposit, inspection. Wanted 410, 28 gauges, Winchester pumps, .22 Hi power, .218 Bee, ammo., .98 Mauser actions, high grade doubles, 3 barrels. Tilford Nelson, Arlington, South Dakota.

WIN. 65, 218, VERY GOOD, $67.00. WANT SAVage 40 or 99, .250-3000. Malcolm Christiansen, Pleasant Grove, Utah.

20-GA. LEVER ACTION, TAKE DOWN, SINGLE bbl. Maynard shotgun, 1873 model, fair, $100.00, or trade for .32 Remington slide or .32-40 Savage. R. T. Mollison, McGregor, Minnesota.

8 GA. DOUBLE BBL. JOHNSON SHOTGUN, highly engraved model, good condition throughout, mechanically perfect. 40" bbl., weight 17 lbs. $250.00 or high grade small gauge double shotgun or rifles. Ray Robertson, Republic, Missouri.

SELL OR TRADE—LUGERS, P.38'S AND OTHER foreign guns, also daggers for sale or trade. Want antique or modern guns. Stamp for list. Art Cook, 118 South 6th, Darby, Penna.

EXCELLENT TO PERFECT USED SHOTGUNS. Pumps, automatics, double. Several sporter rifles. Catalog on request. S. P. Leeper, Mineola, Texas.

.31 CALIBER JAP RIFLE, EXCELLENT, FIRED only 8 rounds, very accurate, brought over new, bolt shield, bayonet, sheath, 75 shells, first $80.00, or consider in trade 16mm. magazine loading movie camera for missionary brother in Africa. John Kopp, Box 421, Kennewick, Washington.

NEW UNERTL 1½" 12X, WANT SMALLER scope and cash. Remodeled Enfield, #70 rear, Red Head dies, excellent, $50.00. Mauser G33-40 action, new, $35.00. Want Remington 513S, 10X Targetspot. Howard Warden, Lore City, Ohio.

400 W.R.A. 7mm. UNPRIMED, UNFIRED shells $17.50. 1000 F.M.P. 7mm. 175 grain bullets $17.50 or trade for .30 caliber M1 bullets. Paul Wright, Silver City, New Mexico.

M70 30-06 M-GOSS REAR, Q.D. SWIVELS, WIDE sling, excellent $135.00; .270 open sights, swivels, excellent $115.00; M95-.35 Winchester, 24" barrel, shells, very good; Remington 12 ga. M-31, Cutts, $80.00 excellent; Remington 12 ga. M-13 21½" barrel, imp. cyl., very good $45.00; S&W K.38 blue holster worn, very good $60.00; .38 Special Official Police 2" reblued, very good; others, stamp for details. N. M. George, Box 206, Riverhead, N. Y.

GERMAN MAUSER, SET TRIGGERS, GOOD out, in, $65.00, Weaver 330 X-T Mt., new, $27.50. Leather rifle slings, almost new, 73¢. S. Redfield, 628 Third Ave., New York, N. Y.

THE FOLLOWING NEW: ONE MODEL 94 Winchester, 30-30, K2.5 and Stith Streamlined $111.90. 7x50 B&L binoculars; $162.00 plus tax. 39A Marlin .22, 330 and Stith Streamline $82.10. Mauser '06 by Johnson automatics, details, $135.00. The following excellent: 7x50 B&L $165.00 tax included; 70-06 pad, swivels, Redfield receiver, $125.00. German 4X scope, $50.00 with q.d. side mount $70.00. Following very good to excellent: Custom model 54, .270, 8X scope, extras $190.00. 54 30-06, Lyman 48, $90.00. L. C. Smith Pigeon grade 12 gauge $90.00. Fox Sterlingworth, Weaver 1X and R mount $75.00. Following good to very good; 8 mm. Mannlicher Kar 88, $65.00. Model 99 Savage, 1X Weaver and Stith $75.00. Model 99, .250-3000, $55.00. Model 95 Marlin 40-82 and ammo $25.00. Evinrude Elto Pal $50.00. 6X Lightweight binoculars, $55.00. .219 Zipper, factory rebuilt, all new deluxe Deer rifle parts except receiver and block $75.00 with box shells. Forrest Weeks, Belle Fourche, So. Dak.

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New High Standard M-HD Military 22 Cal. 6¾ or 4½-inch Heavy Barrel, Walnut Grip	$51.17
New extra Clips for H-D m.	1.50
New Lyman Alaskan Scope (No Mount)	49.00
New H&R .38 Cal. Defender M-25	31.25
New H&R .22 Cal. Regular M-365	25.00
New I. J. 12-16-20 Gauge Shotguns	15.25
30-06 M. C. Ammo., late date, per 100	5.00
45 A. C. Ammo., late date, per 100	4.50
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38 Special M. D. Range per box	1.65

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WINCHESTER 70, HORNET, EXCELLENT, Weaver 440, Lee dots, Stith mount, ten boxes ammunition, $155.00. Remington 37, very good, stock revarnished, Redfield Olympic front, vaver micrometer rear, carrying case, Lyman 8X Targetspot with Lee Dot $165.00. Want: Remington automatic, 12 or 16 gauge, excellent with Poly Choke or compensator; Kodak Medalist or equivalent and accessories, also dark-room equipment including enlarger. Julius M. Fernandez, 301 Verdun St., Lafayette, Louisiana.

IDEAL POWDER MEASURE, EXCELLENT $6.00, Rifleman 1933 through 1945, 3 missing, $12.00 f.o.b. Odd lots cartridges, cases, some primed. List. Dr. C. G. D'Oench, 607 North Grand, St. Louis 3, Missouri.

WINCHESTER H.S. ACTION, EXCELLENT, $20.00. Want Enfield or Mauser rifle. E. M. Armstrong, Lewistown, Montana.

SMITH & WESSON .44 SPECIAL TRIPLE LOCK, very good to excellent 5 in. bbl. cut off and registered to 3¾ in., excellent job. $100.00 money order, or trade for 357 S&W Magnum, like condition 3½ in. bbl. A. T. Hartley, Chief of Police, Box 30, Winslow, Arizona.

EXCELLENT REMINGTON 16-GAUGE SPORTSman automatic, full-choke, 2¾" chamber, 28" rib, 250 shells, heavy leather case. $175.00 or .257 rifle with scope. Art Ora, Lakeport, California.

.30 CAL. CARBINE AMMO, $4.00 PER 100. Want .22 Hornet, or what have you? R. A. Hartman, 284 E. St. Charles, Elmhurst, Illinois.

TRADING IS OUR SPECIALTY. WHAT DO you have? Want? Have new Guns, Scope, Mts., Universal Reloading Tools, Binoculars, Argus Spotting Scopes and Stands, B&L Ray Ban Skeet and Shooting glasses, 10-X Coats, Red Head Hunting Coats, Fishing Tackle. List Free. Want Hensoldt Dialytan 4X Scope, .22 Hornet, Weaver 29S. Keim Sporting Goods Co., Mt. Hope, Ohio.

WINCHESTER 40 12GA. AUTO, POLY, SLING swivels, very good. $100. 3 bbl. 12-12x32-40 hammerless, fluid steel, 7½ pounds. Very good $100. D. D. Eddy, Castile, New York.

REMINGTON O&U SKEET VR, OUTSIDE REblued, inside very good, $125.00, first money order. Will trade for Winchester 21, 20 ga. VR skeet or trap. L. M. Jones, 321 N. Plum St., Pontiac, Ill.

WINCHESTER M-12 SKEET, 12 GA. CUTTS, 3 tubes, $160.00. Winchester .257-Redfield Mt. 440 Lee Dot $140.00. Alaskan (coated) Lee Dot, $235.00, above—all excellent condition. Jap Rifle & Bayonet $15.00, Savage 23-D Hornet & B Mounts, $55.00, B&L 6x30, $35.00. Lee Enfield $25.00, Man's 21-J Bulova Waterproof case, $35.00, also 17-J Illinois, Railroad thin model, $25.00. Want—Win. M-12 Skeet or Trap 16 ga. Norman Michael, 3758 W St., N.W., Washington 7, D. C.

.257 CUSTOM MAUSER, ALTERED BOLT, SIDE safety, excellent or better, $115.00. Standard 52 very good, $55.00. Want excellent Krag, Ma. 95, 16 or 20 ga. double, what have you? Bill Herrick, 911 Neosho, Emporia, Kansas.

ONE ZEISS ZIELMULTI, EXCELLENT $175.00, with Redfield senior mounts. One Zeiss Zielmultar, excellent $175.00, with quick detachable lever mounts. Want Contax Camera, over under shotgun. Pete Laas, Lebanon, Oregon.

GOOD KODAK 2C FOLDING CAMERA, PICture size 2¾"x4¼" $18.00. 209 new factory, 270 cartridges $25.00. Want Winchester .22 rifle model 72 or 75. Frank A. Jones, 60 Wall Street, Bristol, Tennessee.

KRAG, GOOD, WITH SLING AND BAYONET and two boxes commercial ammunition, $45.00. .30-'06 Target ammunition $5.50 per hundred. Theodolites ML-47, for following weather balloons, good, $200.00. Micrometer, 1 in. .0001" Vernier, $7.50. Goggles, metal frames, chamois lined, $3.00. Compass, Navy watch type, new, $3.00. Remington auto loading, 12 ga., like new, equipped with 2 barrels 28" & 20" and 10 boxes of shells, $130.00. Francis S. Boggess, Liberty, Missouri.

MOOSE HEAD, 44" SPECIAL, PALMATION V.G., condition v.g., value $75.00. Want Weaver K4 or .45 auto, or ? Charles Jacobs, Alfred, New York.

37 REMINGTON, EXCELLENT, OIL FINISH, $100.00. Excellent P-38, officers model holster, extra clip, $60.00. L. C. Smith typewriter, Secretary Model, good, $40.00. Want 65mm. Spotting Scope, 45 Automatic, 12 ga. shotgun. L. M. Holmes, 249 Highland, Ashland, Ohio.

W70 K-HORNET. FULL-LENGTH STOCK, 20" barrel. Alaskan, Stith q.d. mount, v.g. to excellent, scope finish scratched, $165.00. Ship C.O.D. subject to inspection. Want—shop machines, grinder, lathe, etc. W. H. Hammett, Route 4, Greer, South Carolina.

BROWNING O&U, 12 GA., 30" FF, VENTILATED rib, SST, AE, Beavertail, perfect in, excellent plus out, $200.00. Want Model 21 two sets bbls. perfect. Andrew Marsh, Lewistown, Montana.

TRIPLELOCK, S&W 44SP, EXCELLENT, $65.00, or best offer below. Winchester Lowwall, good, $10.00. Want Winchester highwall. V. R. Colburn, 1630 Central Avenue, Albany, New York.

16 AND 20 GA. REMINGTON SPORTSMAN, new $85.45. Winchester 70 carbine 30-'06 mic. peep, sling excellent $25.00. 8mm. issue Mauser, good, $25.00. Polish Random pistol, good. $29.50. Zeiss binoculars, 7x30 Delturis, vg $69.50, B&L 7x50 coated lens, new, $150.00. Andrew Spina, 514 Main, Towanda, Pa.

BEAUTIFUL ACTION 26" BUILT .270, PERFECT Mauser action 26" Ackley barrel, Johnson safety 70 trigger, figured walnut stock, K2.5 scope, no mounts, no sights, never fired, 3 boxes shells. $225.00. Consider 75 sporter in trade. M. A. Allen, 3240 Paseo, Kansas City, Missouri.

WINCHESTER MODEL 12, 20 GA. FULL, leather case both excellent plus $80.00 Winchester 94, .30-30 good $35.00. Albert Schultz, Cape Girardeau, Mo.

ENFIELD SPORTER SEDGLEY .30-'06, PERfect. $115.00. Want good grade double shotgun. Give or take differen:e. H. H. Steck, 4828 W. St., N.W., Washington, D. C. Member.

TRADE

NEW RIFLES, REVOLVERS, SCOPES, ETC., AS available, to trade for good antique firearms. James Serven, Santa Ana, California. tf

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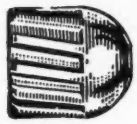

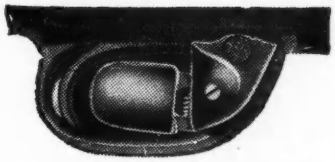

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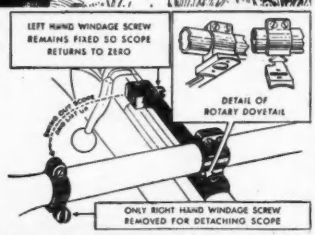
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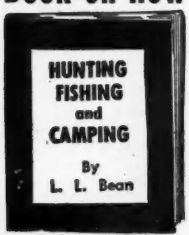

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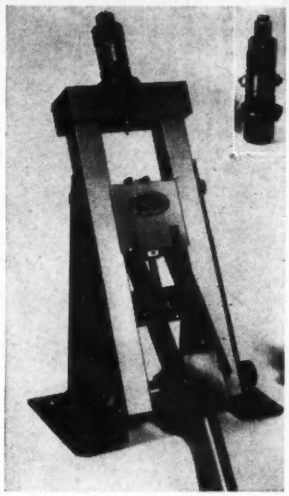

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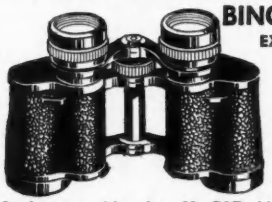

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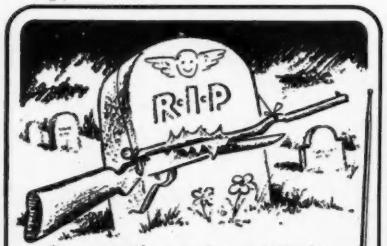

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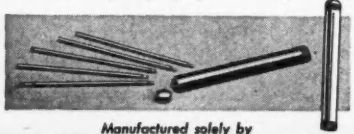

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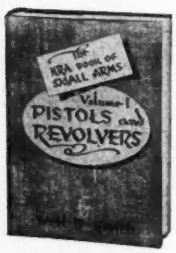

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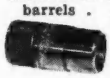

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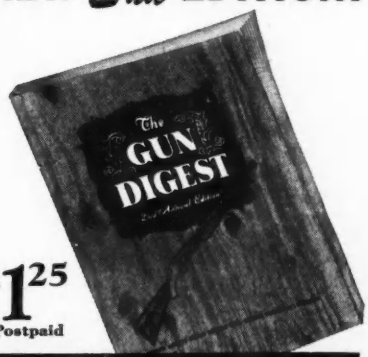

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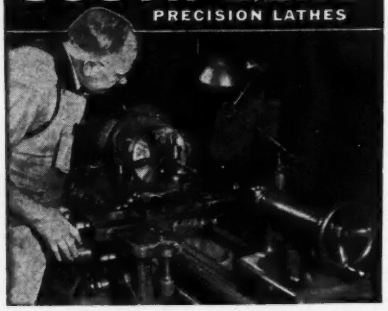

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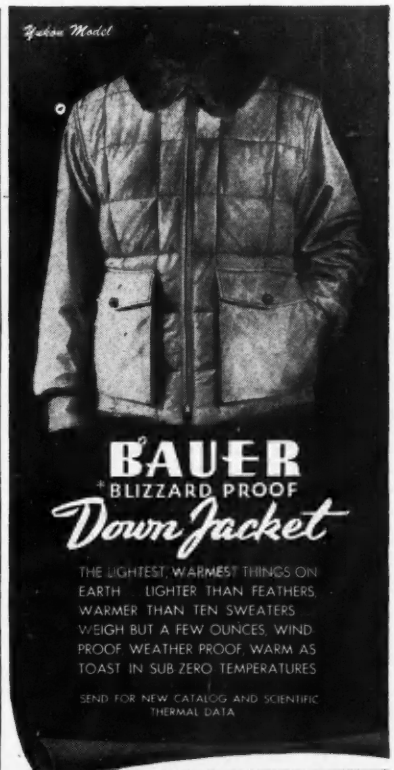

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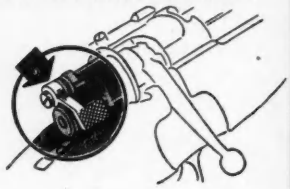

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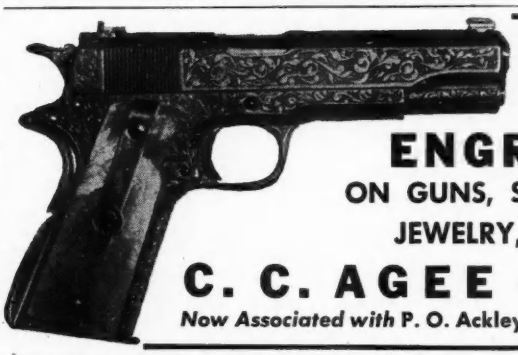

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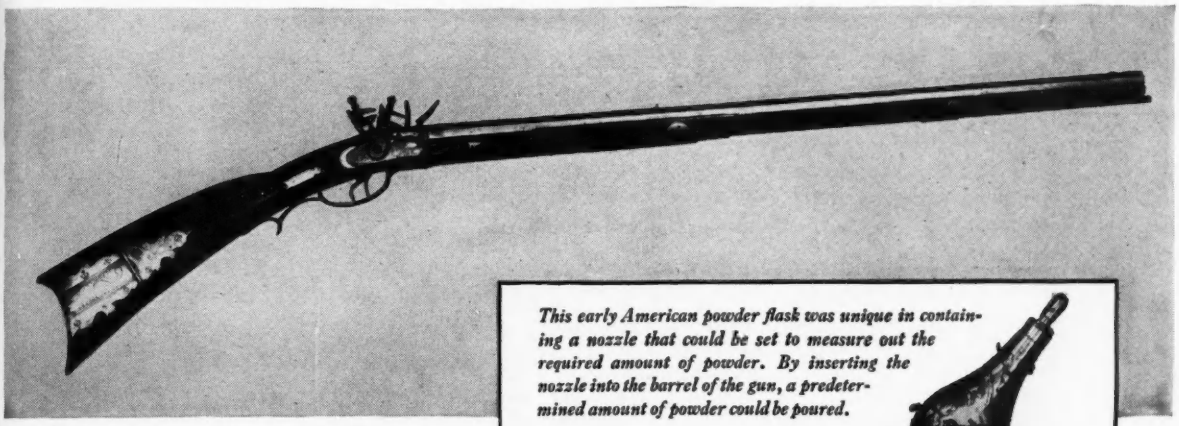

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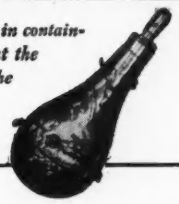

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